

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Western National Bank and Eutaw Savings Bank

other name/site number Baltimore Grand (preferred); B-2336, B-2337

2. Location

street & town 401 West Fayette Street ☐ not for publication

city or town Baltimore ☐ vicinity

state Maryland code MD county Independent city code 510 zip code 21201

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally. ( ☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Signature] 12-8-99  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ( ☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

☐ entered in the National Register.

☐ See continuation sheet.

☐ determined eligible for the  
National Register

☐ See continuation sheet.

☐ determined not eligible for the  
National Register.

☐ removed from the National  
Register.

☐ other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Baltimore Grand (B-2336, B-2337)  
Name of Property

Baltimore city, Maryland  
County and State

### 5. Classification

#### Ownership of Property

(check as many boxes as apply)

- ☒ private  
☐ public-local  
☐ public-State  
☐ public-Federal

#### Category of Property

(check only one box)

- ☐ district  
☒ building(s)  
☐ site  
☐ structure  
☐ object

#### Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2	1	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
2	1	Total

#### Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

n/a

#### Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

### 6. Function or Use

#### Historic Function

(Enter categories from instructions)

Commerce/Trade: financial institution

#### Current Function

(Enter categories from instructions)

Commerce/Trade: restaurant

### 7. Description

#### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Late 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Century Revivals:

Classical Revival

#### Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation masonry

walls stone; brick

roof membrane; slate; copper

other

#### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Baltimore Grand (B2336-B2337)

Name of Property

Baltimore city, Maryland

County and State

## 8. Description

### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "X" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property National Register listing.)

- ☒ **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

- ☐ **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- ☐ **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ **B** removed from its original location.
- ☐ **C** a birthplace or grave.
- ☐ **D** a cemetery.
- ☐ **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ **F** a commemorative property.
- ☐ **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

### Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

### Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

### Areas of Significance

(enter categories from instructions)

Commerce

Architecture

### Period of Significance

1881-1912

### Significant Dates

1881; 1883; 1911; 1912

### Significant Persons

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

n/a

### Cultural Affiliation

n/a

### Architect/Builder

Charles L. Carson, architect (1881, 1883)

Baldwin & Pennington, architects (1911)

Haskell & Barnes, architects (1912)

### Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other: Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

Baltimore Grand (B-2336, B-2337)  
Name of Property

Baltimore city, Maryland  
County and State

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 0.47 acres; Baltimore East, MD quad

### UTM References

(Place additional boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

1 18 360160 4350000  
Zone Easting Northing

2  
Zone Easting Northing

3  
Zone Easting Northing

4  
Zone Easting Northing

☐ See continuation sheet

### Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

### Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Michael V. Murphy, AIA

organization Murphy & Dittenhafer, Inc.

date 9/10/99

street & number 800 North Charles Street

telephone (410) 625-4823

city or town Baltimore

state MD zip code 21201

### Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

### Continuation Sheets

#### Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

#### Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

### Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

### Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name/title \_\_\_\_\_

street & number \_\_\_\_\_

telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town \_\_\_\_\_

state \_\_\_\_\_

zip code \_\_\_\_\_

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.



## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

B- 2336, B-2337  
Baltimore Grand  
Baltimore city, Maryland

Section number 7 Page 1

### Description Summary

The property known as the Baltimore Grand comprises two historic bank buildings, the former Western National Bank (1881, remodeled 1912) and the former Eutaw Savings Bank (1887, remodeled 1911), which were connected in 1989 and adaptively reused to create a commercial catering and banquet facility. The bank buildings retain good integrity to the 1911-12 period; they are characterized by richly-detailed Classical facades, and retain the majority of their interior finishes in place behind inserted wall and ceiling panels.

### General Description

The Eutaw Street facade of the Baltimore Grand is composed of three parts constructed at different times: the former Western National Bank (1881) at the south, a recent (1989) connecting element constructed in a former alley, and the former Eutaw Savings Bank (1887) at the north, on the corner of Eutaw and Fayette streets.

The Fayette Street facade also consists of three sections. The original (1887) section of the former Eutaw Savings Bank occupies the corner at the east end of the block; a 1911 addition to the bank extended the building through the center of the block. In 1989, a one-story addition was made at the western end of the block to provide an entrance and lobby for the banquet facility.

The Western National Bank building was originally designed in 1881 by Baltimore architect Charles Carson in an exuberant Queen Anne style. Remnants of the original brick and limestone exterior remain visible on the south facade facing the alley. In 1912, the Baltimore architectural firm of Haskell and Barnes carried out an interior and exterior remodeling of the building which included a completely new Classically-inspired facade facing Eutaw Street.

The Western National Bank's Eutaw Street facade is composed of a giant order of Ionic columns supporting a pedimented portico. The frieze above the columns is unadorned except for the carved identification "Western National Bank" on its face. The pediment is decorated with egg and dart molding, with acroteria at its peak and ends. The facade is constructed of smooth-faced limestone over a granite base. Three large cast facing clerestory windows are subdivided with metal framing and two smaller windows at the ground level with ornamental iron grilles. The main entrance doors are bronze. A set of granite steps leads up to the entrance. The ornamental east facade returns ten feet around the north and south corners.

A simple connecting element between the Western National Bank and the adjacent Eutaw Savings Bank consists of a pair of plain metal exit doors below a sloped standing-seam metal roof. This connector, constructed in 1989, is set back from the plane of the facades.

The Eutaw Savings Bank, at the southwest corner of Eutaw and Fayette streets, was also designed by Charles Carson in 1887. It is constructed of brownstone on a base of granite, has wood windows clad with copper, and exemplifies Classical influence in its form and detailing.

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

B- 2336, B-2337  
Baltimore Grand  
Baltimore city, Maryland

Section number 7 Page 2

The east façade of the Eutaw Savings Bank is divided into three bays. The central bay is defined by a projecting entrance portico with paired Doric columns and a balustraded balcony delineating the second level. A large arched window above the entrance portico is framed by paired fluted pilasters with Corinthian capitals extending to the cornice line. Each side bay is pierced on the first floor by a rectangular window with Tuscan pilasters and at the second story by round-arched windows framed by Doric pilasters and decorative inset panels, and topped with a dentilled pediment.

The street level of the Eutaw Savings Bank has banded rustication, while the upper level is laid with a smooth ashlar surface. The frieze, carved with a swag motif, supports a dentilled pediment (with carved reliefs in the tympanum) in the center bay and a copper balustrade that wraps around the entire building. Applied bronze letters identify the "Eutaw Savings Bank" at the central frieze.

Like the Western National Bank to the south, the ornamental facade of the Eutaw Savings Bank extends ten feet around to the south side of the building where it transitions to simple running bond brickwork. The brownstone facade exhibits varying levels of deterioration typical of the material. The Eutaw Street facade was modified slightly to its present appearance when Baldwin and Pennington expanded the building in 1911.

Like the east-facing Eutaw Street facade, the north-facing Fayette Street facade of the Baltimore Grand is composed of three sections, each of which was constructed at a different time. At the corner, the Fayette Street facade of the Eutaw Savings Bank comprises the easternmost element. This is carried out in the same style and materials as the bank's Eutaw Street facade. An areaway allows windows into a basement level. The original Carson-designed facade had three bays, the westernmost of which included a rounded Projecting bay. In 1911, Baldwin and Pennington modified and extended the facade by removing the rounded projecting bay, re-cladding that section, and extending the building toward the west with windows and trim which matched the original in form, materials, and detailing. The resulting facade is a symmetrical composition. The only visible evidence of phased construction is that the later brownstone has weathered to a darker color.

At the western end of the north façade, a single-level entrance lobby was constructed in 1989. Clad in brown brick, this element contains a single large arched window over several pairs of wood and glass doors. Attached wood letters announce "The Baltimore Grand" over the entrance arch. A large parking structure (non-contributing) adjoins to the west. The lobby serves as a pre-function area for the two primary banquet/catering halls in the building, and also provides handicapped accessibility. The interior materials of the lobby and associated service areas include painted drywall ceilings and walls, and carpeted floors.

In the 1989 conversion of the two banks into a banquet facility, the main banking rooms were converted into banquet halls and the executive office became a dining room. The conversion took advantage of the original ornate ceilings and wall treatments of these spaces, which were restored and maintained in several areas; other historic interior finishes were retained primarily in place behind and above inserted walls and ceilings. Overall, the interior retains good integrity to the 1911-1912 period.

The Western National Bank's double height banking room was adapted as the South Banquet Hall. The current space has a suspended drywall ceiling approximately 12 feet above the floor and drywall and fabric panel walls constructed about two feet inside of the original marble-clad walls. Carpet currently covers the floor. Above and

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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behind the inserted walls and ceiling, the lower level and clerestory windows as well as the remaining wall and ceiling finishes of the monumental banking room remain largely intact. These finishes include twelve foot marble clad walls above which run a band of clerestory windows flanked by paired plaster pilasters supporting an ornamental cornice. About half of the clerestory window openings were closed with masonry in 1989. The original plaster ceiling remains above the later suspended ceiling. Original finishes have sustained some damage from the installation of the current interior treatments, which involved numerous penetrations in the original walls and ceilings for support.

The North Banquet Hall occupies the former main banking room of the Eutaw Savings Bank, a grand two-story space. The banking room was originally entered from Eutaw Street through a decorative bronze interior portico, now concealed. The side walls of the banking room were clad with marble at the lower level; above this, the smooth coursed ashlar masonry was decoratively exposed. An elevated ornamental metal catwalk/balcony, supported by brackets, followed the perimeter of the room and became a mezzanine level over offices and utility rooms at the west end. Other notable features include six Palladian windows located above the elevated walkway which are framed by Corinthian pilasters and moldings. The arches of the Palladian windows are set in recessed lunettes and are filled with decorative stained glass. These grand windows are interspersed with ten simpler rectangular windows, set below recessed round arches. Above the upper cornice, a curved ceiling transitions to a flat metal coffered ceiling with integral lighting and ventilation grilles in square recesses. Alterations carried out in 1989 include installation of new drywall and panel walls at two feet inside of the original exterior walls to accommodate ductwork. These walls extend vertically from the floor level to the underside of the catwalk/balcony which surrounds the room. The installation of these interior finishes, including carpeted floors, was carried out in the same manner as in the South Banquet Hall.

Behind the North Banquet hall is a smaller dining room that was originally the executive office of the Eutaw Savings Bank. The dining room retains its original mahogany paneling and ornamented ceiling with leaded-glass skylights. An adjacent bathroom has original fixtures including an early shower head and wardrobe. A staircase with carved railings leads up to the mezzanine level of the North Banquet Hall.

Beneath the former Western National and Eutaw Savings Banks are a variety of utility and storage rooms. A commercial kitchen was installed as part of the 1989 construction. The basement of the former Eutaw Savings Bank also contains the entrance to a shaft/stair which gives access to the space above the coffered ceiling of the North Banquet Hall.



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Baltimore Grand  
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**Statement of Significance**

The Baltimore Grand is primarily significant under Criterion C. The two historic bank buildings which make up the complex exemplify a significant type of commercial architecture. The Western National Bank and the Eutaw Savings Bank represent a type of small-scale, yet richly detailed and monumental bank building that was characteristic of Baltimore's financial institutions around the turn of the twentieth century. Rather than seeking the "highest and best use" of relatively expensive downtown real estate by combining banking functions with other income-producing uses in multistory buildings, the Western National Bank and Eutaw Savings Bank made an architectural statement of prosperity and permanence through a lavishly-detailed single-purpose banking structure. In doing so, they participated in a trend that was noted by the contemporary architectural press as particularly associated with Baltimore. Furthermore, these buildings represent the work of prominent local architects, including Charles L. Carson, Baldwin & Pennington, and Haskell & Barnes.

The property derives additional significance under Criterion A, in the area of Commerce: the Western National Bank and Eutaw Savings Bank figured prominently in the economic development of the city from the mid-nineteenth century.

**Historic Context and Resource History**

**Commerce (Criterion A)**

Baltimore's financial institutions played a crucial role in the city's development as a port and manufacturing center, and in its historic involvement in industrial enterprises throughout the South. The importance of the financial industry is reflected in the city's surviving bank buildings.

The immediate neighborhood of the Baltimore Grand, the west side of Baltimore, thrived as a vibrant commercial, financial, and entertainment district from the second quarter of the nineteenth century through the middle of the twentieth. Photographs and maps from the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century show a neighborhood densely populated with the garment trade, theaters, department stores, hotels, and a wide variety of small shops. Several banks took part in this flourishing commercial activity.

The Western National Bank provided financial services to the Baltimore community for over 120 years, from 1835, when it was incorporated as a state bank, to 1957, when it merged with the First National Bank. In 1865, the bank was nationalized under the laws of the United States. In 1880, the president of the Western National Bank, Joshua C. Harvey, formalized and developed plans for a new banking house that would replace the old bank building that had stood for more than 40 years and commissioned prominent local architect Charles L. Carson to design the new banking structure. Along with an impressive new building, the director's new efforts to invoke confidence and loyalty in its customers were successful and the bank prospered. In 1906, bank president Charles E. Riemer recognized that the bank had outgrown its existing facility. Major alterations were planned by local architects Haskell and Barnes including a new Eutaw Street façade and a complete interior remodeling and one level expansion to the west. In 1956, the Western National Bank merged with the First National Bank of Baltimore.

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CONTINUATION SHEET**

B-2336, B-2337  
Baltimore Grand  
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The Eutaw Savings Bank was founded in 1847 in the Eutaw House, the prominent hotel at the corner of Baltimore and Eutaw Streets. In 1857, the institution moved from the hotel into its own quarters, a two story brownstone building designed by Joseph Kemp at the southeast corner of Eutaw and Fayette Streets. In 1887, continued growth caused the bank to move again into a new building at the southwest corner of Eutaw Street and Fayette Streets, which was designed by Charles Carson in brownstone to resemble the bank's former home across the street. The former bank then became the home of the Baltimore Equitable Society, Maryland's oldest corporation and the fourth oldest insurance company in the United States. In 1911, continued growth required an expansion of the Eutaw Savings Bank, which, as designed by Baldwin and Pennington, nearly doubled the size of the 1887 structure. The Eutaw Savings Bank merged with the Maryland National Bank (now NationsBank) in 1974.

**Architecture (Criterion C)**

As low, single-purpose, highly ornamental bank buildings, the Western National Bank (1881) and the Eutaw Savings Bank (1887) were early participants in a trend which became significantly associated with Baltimore. An article in Architectural Record published in 1907 observed that the majority of major urban banks toward the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century had tended to erect multistory buildings which provided banking space on the ground floor and income-producing uses above, in the interest of maximizing their investment in expensive downtown real estate. In Baltimore, however, the tendency—begun in the 19<sup>th</sup> century and reinforced in the aftermath of the Fire of 1904—was toward elaborately detailed one-story buildings exclusively for banking use.

This trend reflected the interaction of several factors. Baltimore's banking capital at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century was greater than that of other cities of similar size and population, because numerous industrial enterprises throughout the South were financed there. A rapid expansion in the number of state-chartered financial institutions around the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century produced a sharp increase in competition and encouraged the city's established banks—characterized by conservative methods and outdated buildings—to modernize; as a result, several adopted the emerging fashion for low, ornamental buildings to symbolize their prosperity and permanence.

After the Fire of 1904, which devastated the city's main financial district (several blocks east of the Western National and Eutaw Savings banks), this trend was reinforced. Bankers observed that the only institutions which had survived the conflagration had been housed in low buildings, pointing up a practical advantage of the form. At the same time, in the rush to replace the city's bank buildings, financiers intensified their efforts to distinguish their institutions by means of an up-to-date architectural statement. The vast majority of post-Fire bank buildings were of the one-story type, with ornate Classical facades and lavish interior finishes. The renovations to the Western National and Eutaw Savings banks reflect this trend. The directors of the Western National Bank in 1912 transformed their dated Queen Anne building into a thoroughly modern Classical edifice; the Eutaw Savings Bank, whose original design incorporated Classical ornament, got more of it in the 1911 expansion.

In addition to the capacity of a monumental facade to convey strength and permanence to depositors and represent the safety and security of the institution, bankers found that one-story buildings had functional

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advantages as well. This building type, primarily consisting of a single impressively-finished and well-lighted room, lent itself well to customer impact and convenience. In the great central room—effectively illuminated by skylights—the public business of the bank could be transacted, while a number of smaller rooms and basement areas could be used for private offices and support space.

The Western National and Eutaw Savings banks represent the work of prominent local architects, both in their original designs and in their subsequent renovations. Charles L. Carson (1847-91), who prepared the original designs for both banks, was a leading Baltimore architect whose work spanned a wide variety of public and private buildings: including houses, banks, hotels, synagogues and churches, factories and warehouses. The Central Savings Bank, at Charles and Lexington streets, is a particularly fine example of his work. Although Carson had no formal training in architecture, his work demonstrates a high level of design sensibility. In addition to designing both the adjacent Western National Bank and the Eutaw Savings bank, his other outstanding work included the Mt. Vernon Place Methodist Church, the Lafayette Square Church, and the original Enoch Pratt Library on Cathedral Street.

The noted architectural firm of Baldwin and Pennington carried out a major expansion of the Eutaw Savings Bank in 1911, work which was carried with great sensitivity to the original building designed by Carson. E. Francis Baldwin (1837-1916) and Josias Pennington (1854-1929) were leading architects in the state of Maryland. The firm's more notable projects in Baltimore include the Fidelity Building, the Mt. Royal Station, the Maryland Club, the Hutzler's Palace, the B&O building, and the former Baltimore City College. Baldwin and Pennington also designed numerous churches, railroad stations, and university buildings throughout Maryland.

The architectural firm led by George C. Haskell and Summerfield Barnes is less well known although Haskell is reported to have worked for Carson as a draftsman. The firm's works in Baltimore included the University of Maryland Dental School on nearby Greene Street, the Engine Houses in Hampden and Walbrook, an office building for the German American Fire Insurance Company, in addition to theater, church, and residential work. Haskell and Barnes carried out major alterations to the Western National Bank in 1912 in a very capable rendition of the Classical style then in vogue.

In 1989, the two bank buildings were rehabilitated and combined to function as a banquet/catering facility, which was given the name The Baltimore Grand. McLaughlin Architects of Columbia, Maryland were the architects for this renovation and expansion work, which was generally carried out with minimal impact on the historic structures.



**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

B-2336, B-2337  
Baltimore Grand  
Baltimore city, Maryland

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**Major Bibliographical References**

A Bank and Its Times. Baltimore: First National Bank, 1976.

A Brief History of a Bank. Baltimore: Western National Bank of Baltimore, 1938.

Dorsey, John and James D. Dilts. A Guide to Baltimore Architecture. Centreville, MD: Tidewater Publishers, 1997.

Kidney, Walter C. The Architecture of Choice: Eclecticism in America, 1880-1930. New York: George Braziller, 1974.

Olson, Sherry H. Baltimore: The Building of an American City. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1980.

"The Bank Buildings of Baltimore," Architectural Record, v. 221, 1907.

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties, Maryland Historical Trust, Crownsville, MD

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

B-2336, B-2337  
Baltimore Grand  
Baltimore city, Maryland

Section number 10 Page 1

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**Geographical Data**

**Verbal Boundary Description**

The nominated property is described as Ward 4, Lots 9-16, Section 8, Block 631 among the Land Records of Baltimore City, Maryland. The multilevel parking garage located on this property does not contribute to the significance of the resource.

**Verbal Boundary Justification**

Boundaries are defined by the property lines of the original Eutaw Savings Bank and Western National Bank with the inclusion of annexed alley space connecting the two structures.

B-2336

B-2337

BALTIMORE  
GRAND  
BALTIMORE CITY  
MARYLAND

18-360160-  
4350000

17'30"

520 000  
FEET

MIDDLE  
BRANCH

4346

39°15'

76°37'30" GLEN BURNIE 6.1 MI.

(RELAY)  
62 11 NW

Mapped by the Army Map Service  
Edited and published by the Geological Survey

910 000 FEET

362

363

35'





15-2337

B-2336, B-2337

BALTIMORE CRANIO

BALTIMORE, MD

P = ALAIN JAMAILLO, 1998

" EUTAW AND FAYETTE ST  
FACADES - LOOKING

S-W "

NEG AT MD SHPO

# 1 / 8





B-2337



B-2336, B-2337

Baltimore (main)

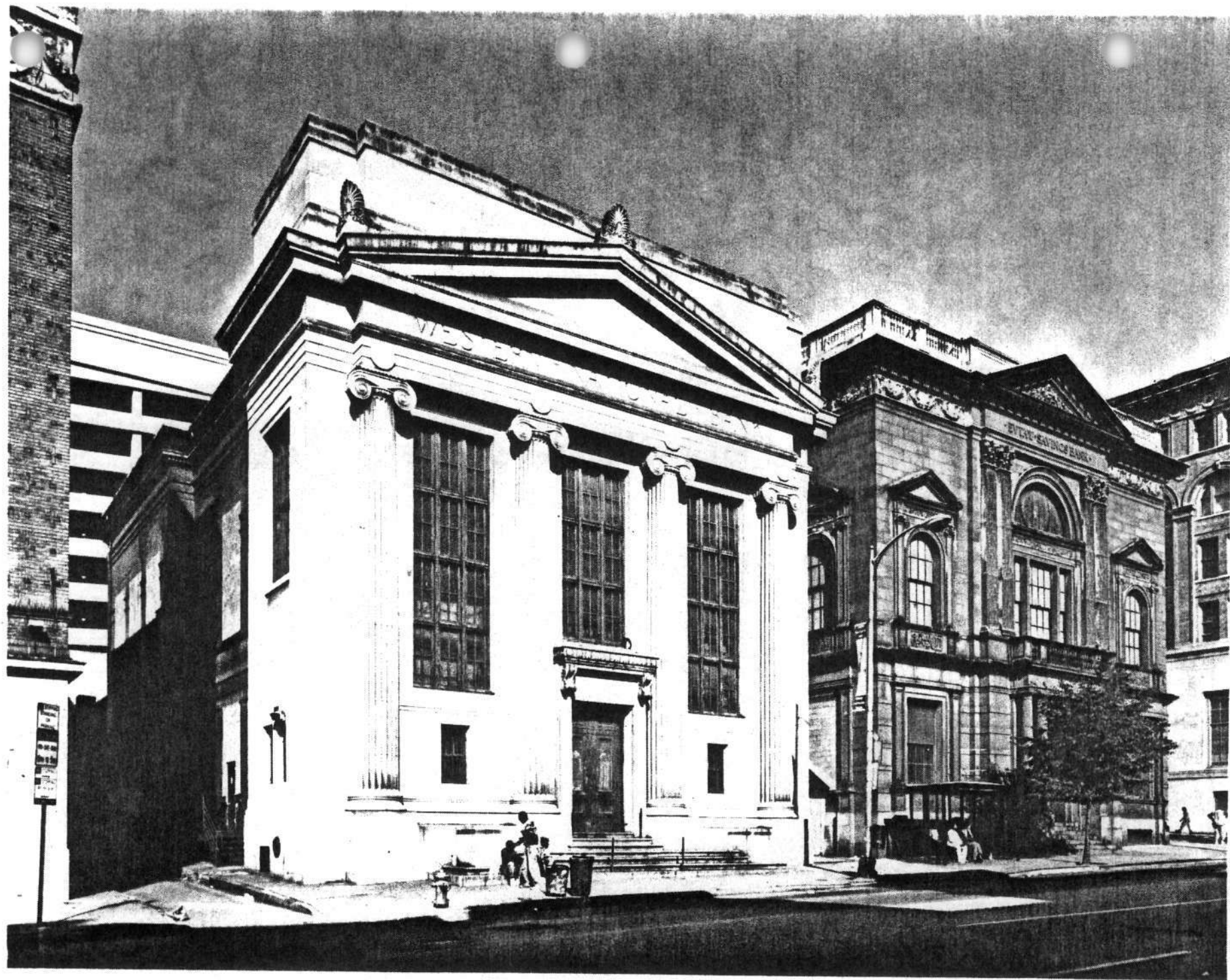
Baltimore, MD

P = MAIN JANAMILIO 1998

" EUTAI ST. FACADE  
LOOKING SW. "

NEG AT MD SHPO

# 2/8



B-2337

"B-2336, B-2337

Benchmark Crain

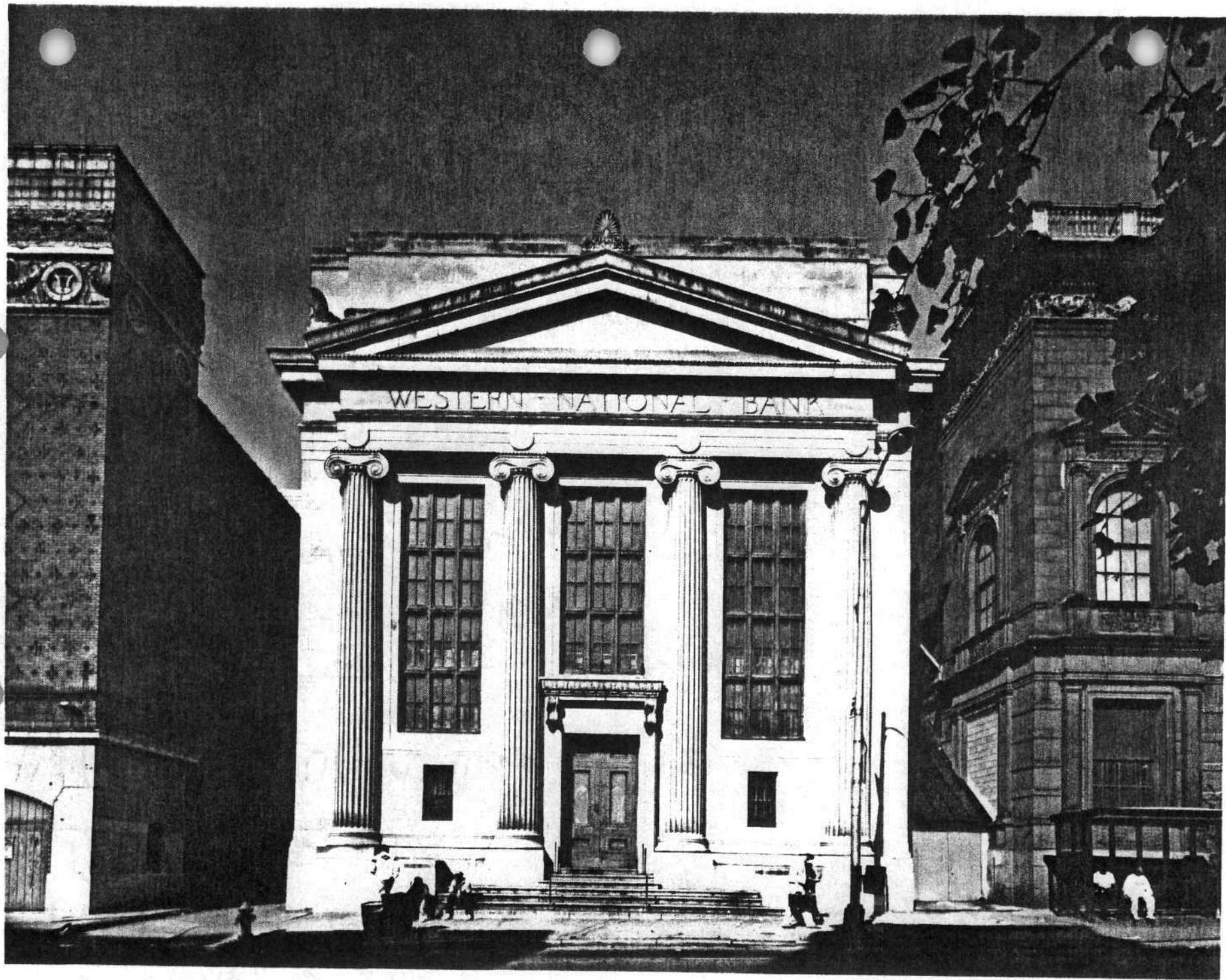
Benchmark, MD

P = ALAN JARAMILLO 1998

"EUPHROSINE FACADE LOOKING N.W."

NEG AT MD SHPO

# 3/8



B-2337



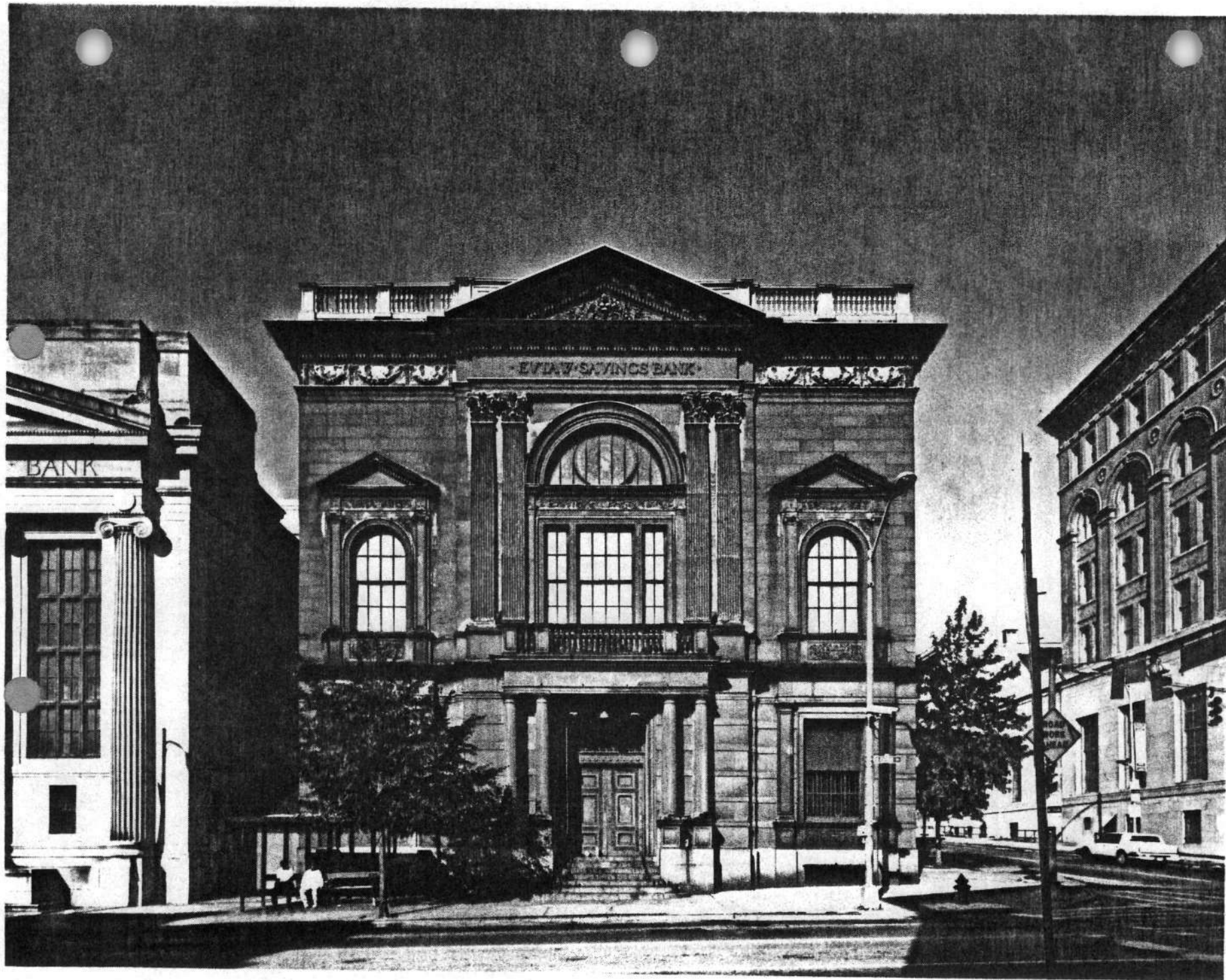
B-2336, B-2337  
Baltimore (CRAN)  
Baltimore, MD.

P= ALAN JARAMILLO - 1998

" EAST FACADE - FORMER  
- FORMER "BANK"  
WESTERN NATIONAL ^

NEG AT MD SHPO

# 4/8



B-2337



B-2336, B-2337

BARTMARE (RAIN)

BARTMARE, MD.

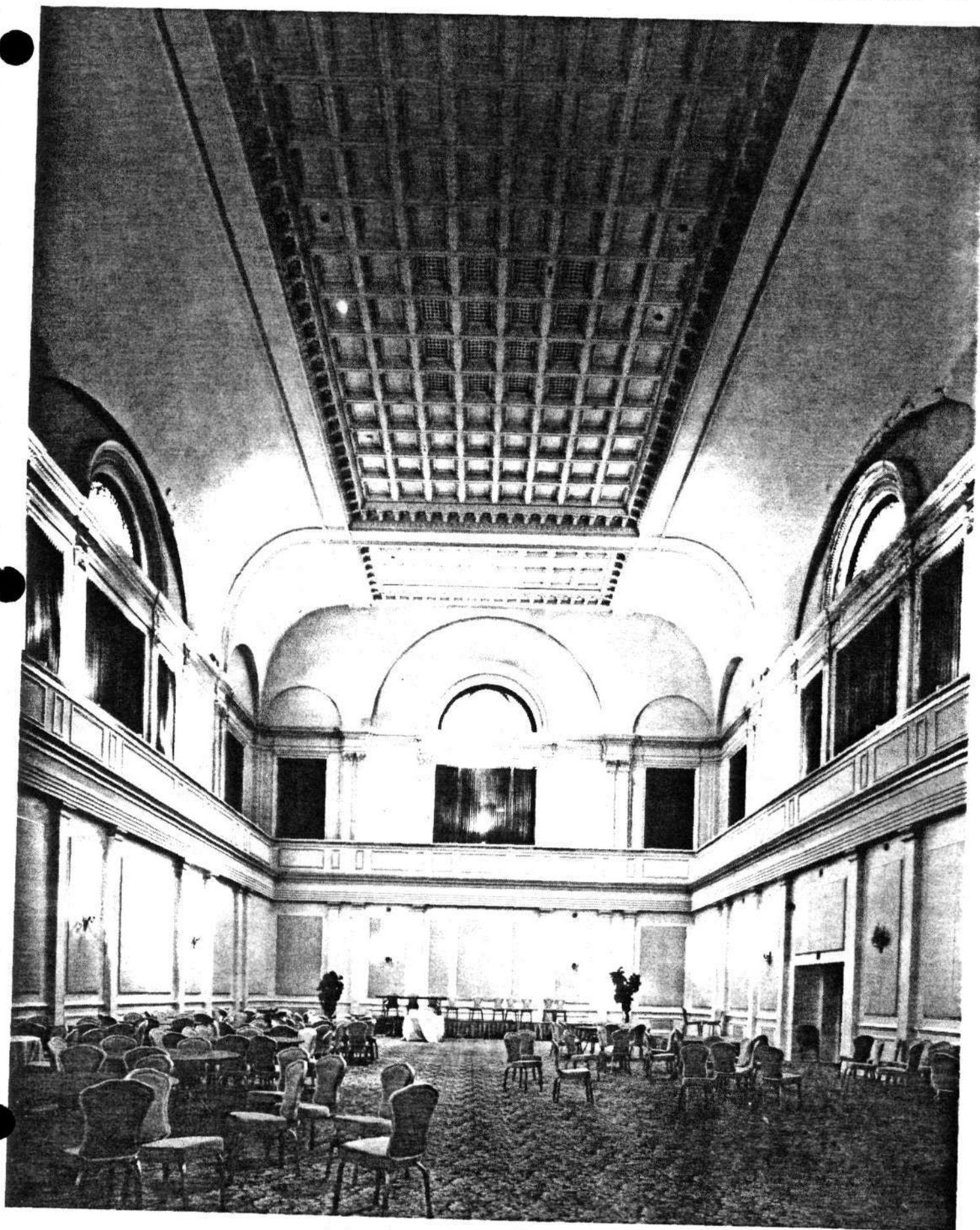
P= ALAIN JANAMILLO - 1998

"EAST FACADE - FORMER  
EUTAW SAVINGS BANK"

NEG AT MD SHPO

#5/8

B-2337



2336, B-2337

THE BALTIMORE GRAND  
BALTIMORE, MD

P= ALAN JANAMILLO, 1998

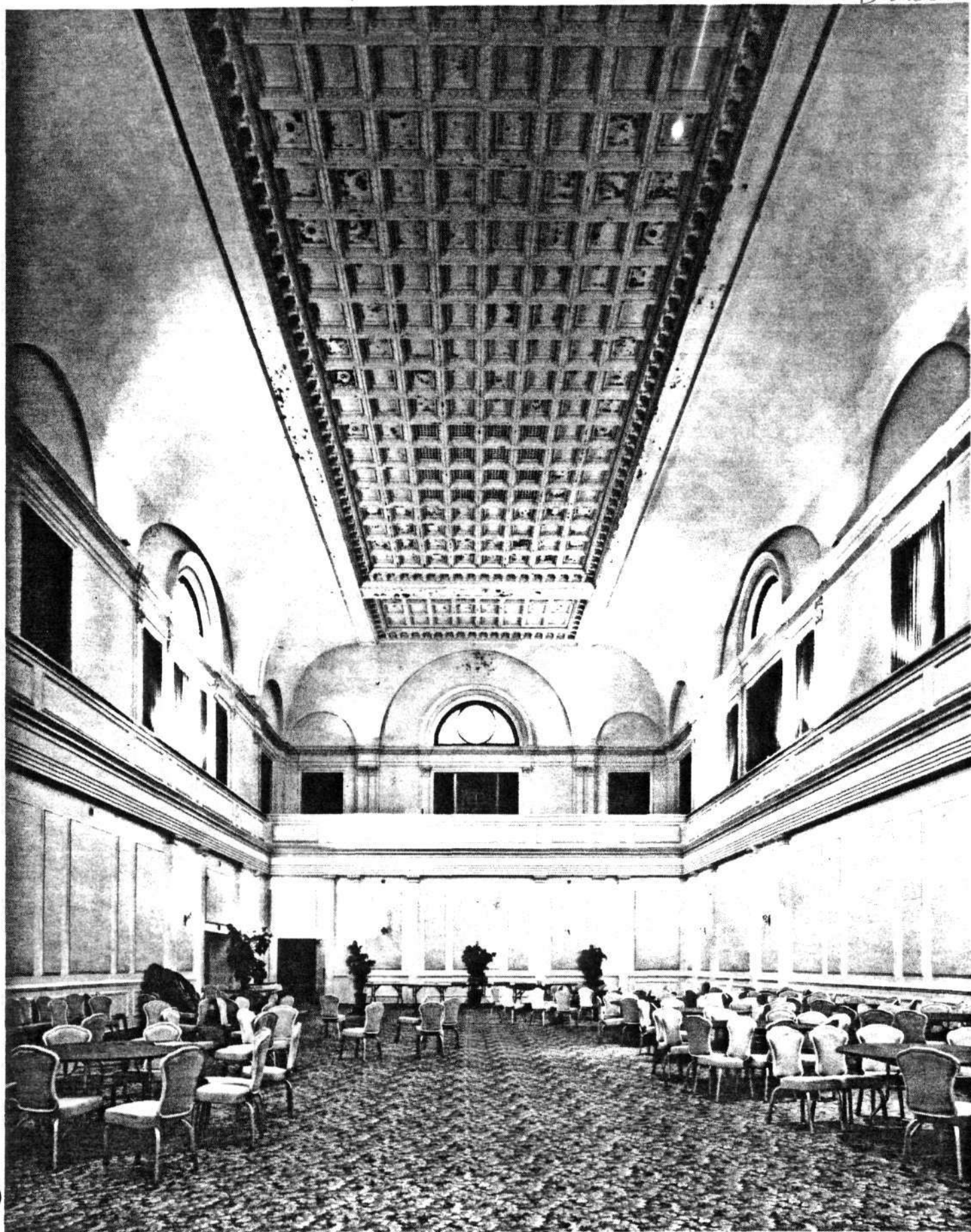
"INTERIOR OF NORTH BANQUET  
HALL - FORMER EUTAW SAVINGS  
BANK - LOOKING WEST.

NEG AT MD SHPO

#6/8



B-2337



B-2336, B-2337

THE BARTMORE CORRIDOR

BARTMORE, MD.

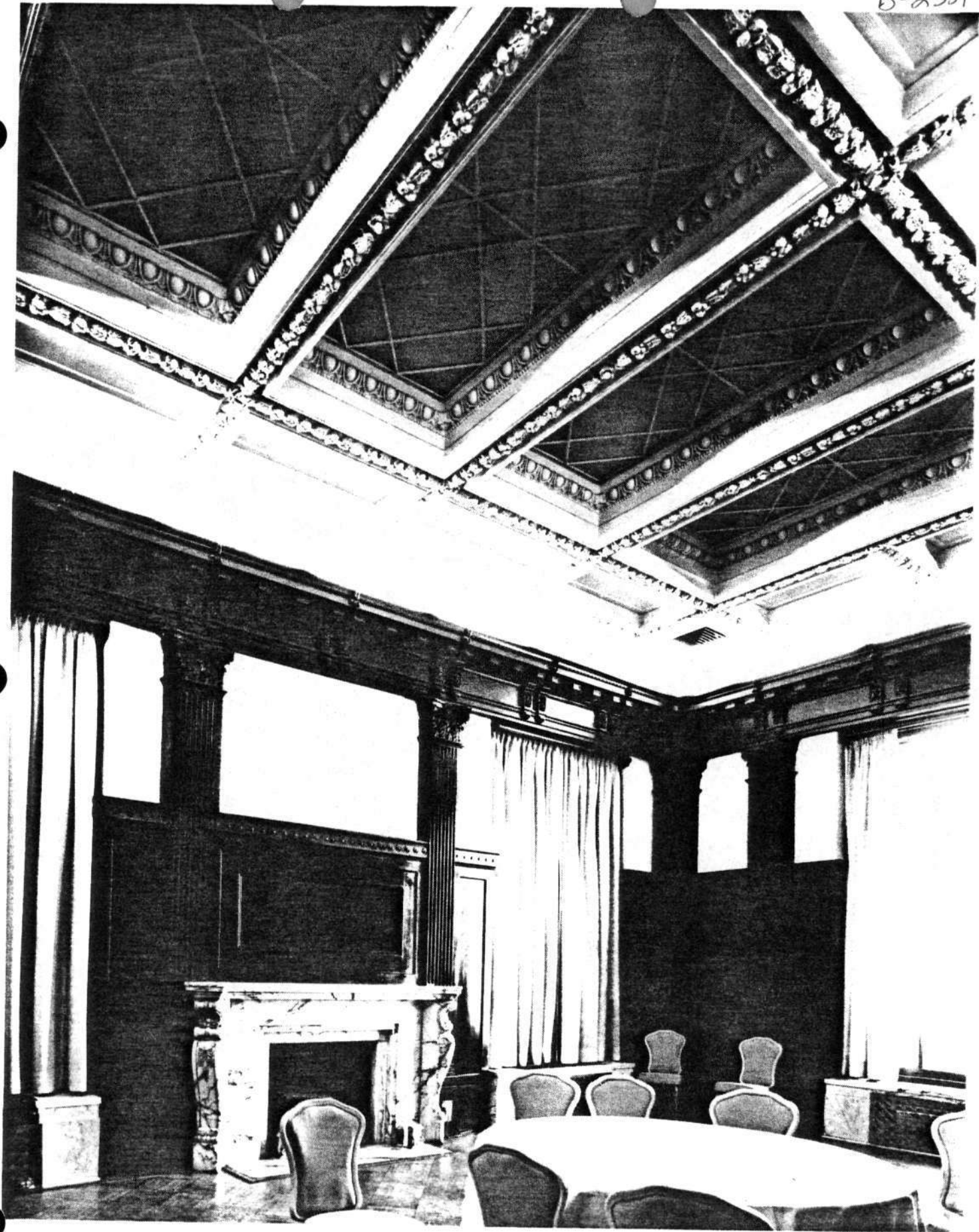
P = AGAIN JARAMILLO, 1998

|| INTERIOR OF NORTH BANQUET  
HALL - FORMER EUTAW SAVINGS  
BANK - LOOKING EAST

NEG AT MD SHPO

# 7/8

B-2337





B-2336, B-2337

THE BALTIMORE GRAND  
BALTIMORE, MD

P=ALAIN JARAMILLO, 1998

" INTERIOR OF DINING ROOM -  
FORMER EXEC OFFICE'S - EUTAW  
SAVINGS BANK "

NEG AT MD SHPO

#8/8

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. B-2337

Magi No. 0423375612

DOE ☐ yes ☒ no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Western National Bank

and/or common First National Bank of Maryland - Western Office

## 2. Location

street & number 14 North Eutaw Street ☐ not for publicationcity, town Baltimore ☐ vicinity of congressional district 3rd

state Maryland county

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

## 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name First National Bank of Maryland

street &amp; number Comptrollers Dept. Light &amp; Redwood Streets telephone no.: 244-4000

city, town Baltimore state and zip code Maryland 21203

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore City Courthouse liber JFC 2

street &amp; number Fayette and Calvert Streets folio 223

city, town Baltimore state Maryland

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Baltimore Retail District Survey

date 1980 ☒ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☒ local

depository for survey records Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation

city, town Baltimore state Maryland

## 7. Description

Survey No. B-2337

### Condition

☒ excellent  
☐ good  
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☐ unexposed

### Check one

☐ unaltered  
☒ altered

### Check one

☒ original site  
☐ moved      date of move \_\_\_\_\_

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

#### SUMMARY:

The Western National Bank is a one-story 1881 brick bank building with a 1912 limestone facade in the Classical Revival style which is located on the west side of North Eutaw Street about 75 feet south of West Fayette Street in central Baltimore, Maryland. The principal elevation faces east and has four Ionic pilasters framing tall windows and a central entrance. The entablature carries the bank name in incised lettering and the pediment has anthemia at the peak and corners. The building is currently a branch of the First National Bank of Maryland.

#### General Description:

The Western National Bank building was originally erected in 1881 and was designed by the architect Charles L. Carson in a rather heavy Queen Anne style featuring a polychromatic brick and stone exterior. Large arched bays across the front elevation were crowned by a central pavilion and pediment. The central entrance also had a complicated double pediment. Urns were located at the corners of the roof.

In 1912, the bank was given a new limestone facade in a Classical Revival style which is virtually unchanged since its construction. The elevation is divided into three bays by four engaged Ionic columns on a low base. The entrance is in the center bay at the top of a short flight of granite steps. The door surround has paneled jambs and a console hood. A sign panel bearing the name and logo of the First National Bank is inserted under the hood. Above the hood is a multiple-light window with metal mullions and muntins which fill the entire bay. The flanking bays are filled with limestone to the level of the door lintel and pierced by two small rectangular windows with fretwork. The upper part of the bays have multiple-light windows as in the center bay.

The architrave has disks centered above the column capitals and the frieze is incised with the original bank name, "Western National Bank". The wide, shallow pediment has anthemia at the peak and corners. Above the pediment is a parapet wall with a plain coping. The rear and side elevations are as originally built and are common bond dark red brick, facing on alleys. The original slate hipped roof is visible on the rear or west side.

## 8. Significance

Survey No. B-2337

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** 1881; altered 1912 **Builder/Architect** Charles L. Carson, arch. (1881)

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Summary:

The Western National Bank is a good example of the Classical Revival facade applied to a Queen Anne building in the peak of the Beaux-Arts movement of the early 20th century. Banks were particularly susceptible to the change in style as the clean, elegant lines of Greek and Roman temples appealed to these institutions as representing the solidity and longevity of the banks. The facade treatment of the Western National Bank was more successful than the first story alteration of the nearby Drivers and Mechanics National Bank (B-2309).

History and Support:

The Western National Bank was founded as a State bank in 1835 and became a national bank in 1865. The present building was designed by Charles L. Carson and built about 1881-1882. Located next to the Eutaw Savings Bank (B-2336), the two banks occasionally had directors serving on both boards concurrently.



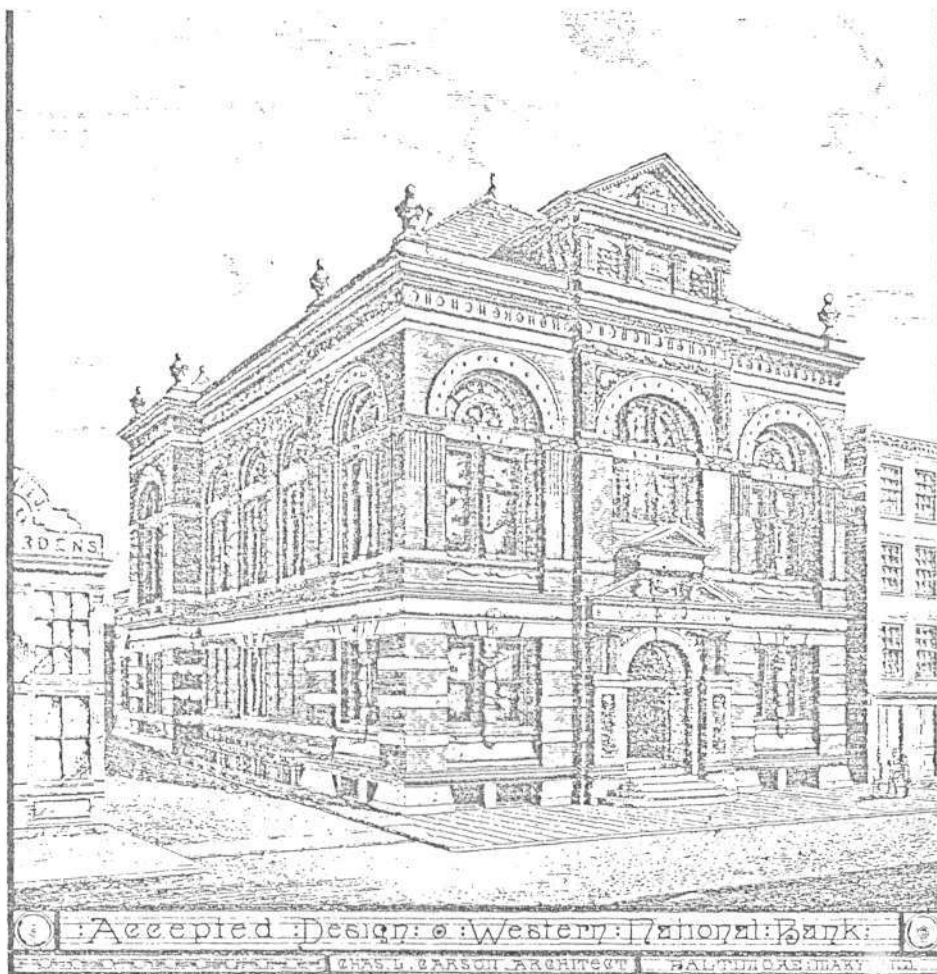


B-2337

Western National Bank  
14 North Eutaw Street  
Private

1881; altered 1912

The Western National Bank is a good example of the Classical Revival facade applied to a Queen Anne building in the peak of the Beaux-Arts movement of the early 20th century. Banks were particularly susceptible to the change in style as the clean, elegant lines of Greek and Roman temples appealed to these institutions as representing the solidity and longevity of the banks. The facade treatment of the Western National Bank was more successful than the first story alteration of the nearby Drovers and Mechanics National Bank (B-2309).



33

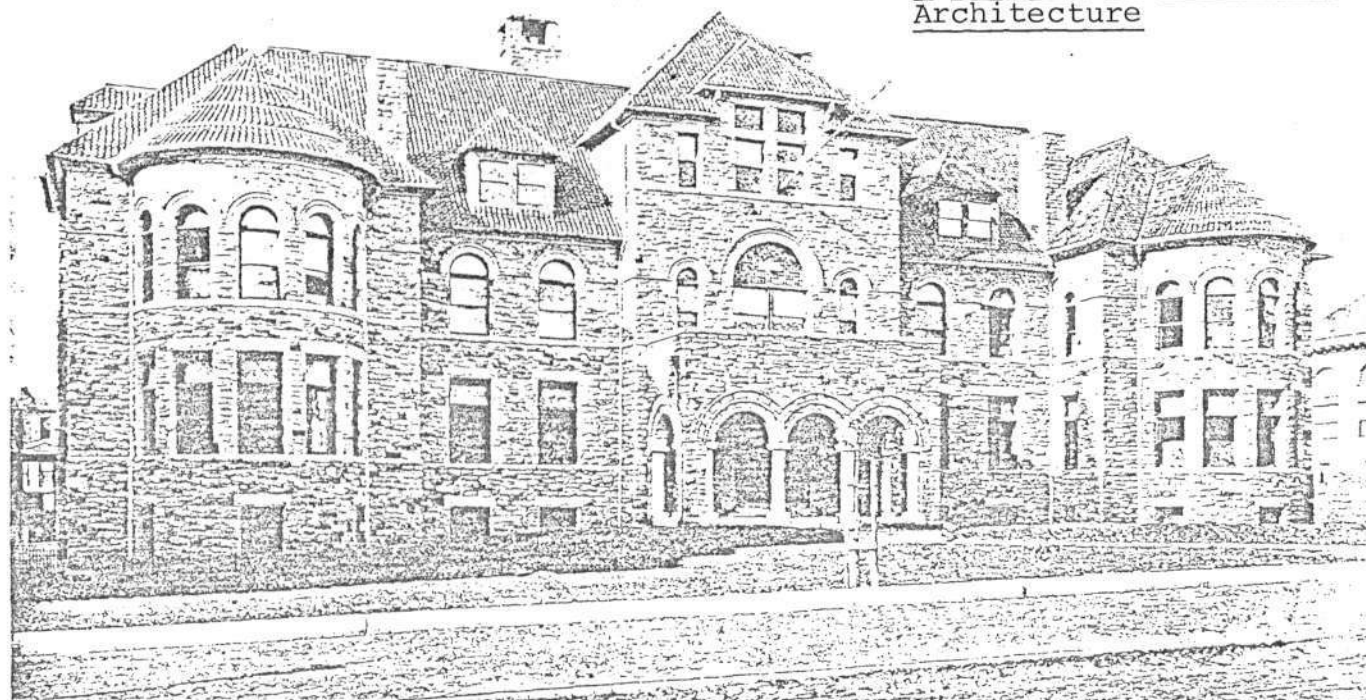
33. Carson, Western National B  
[*American Architect* No. 298 (1881)]

34. Carson, Goucher Hall, 1886-88,  
merly known as Women's College,  
headquarters of the Baltimore Char  
American Red Cross. [*Art Work of B*  
more, 1893]

35. E. Francis Baldwin and Josias P  
nington, Maryland Club, 1891. [*An*  
can Architect No. 1010 (1895)]

B-2337

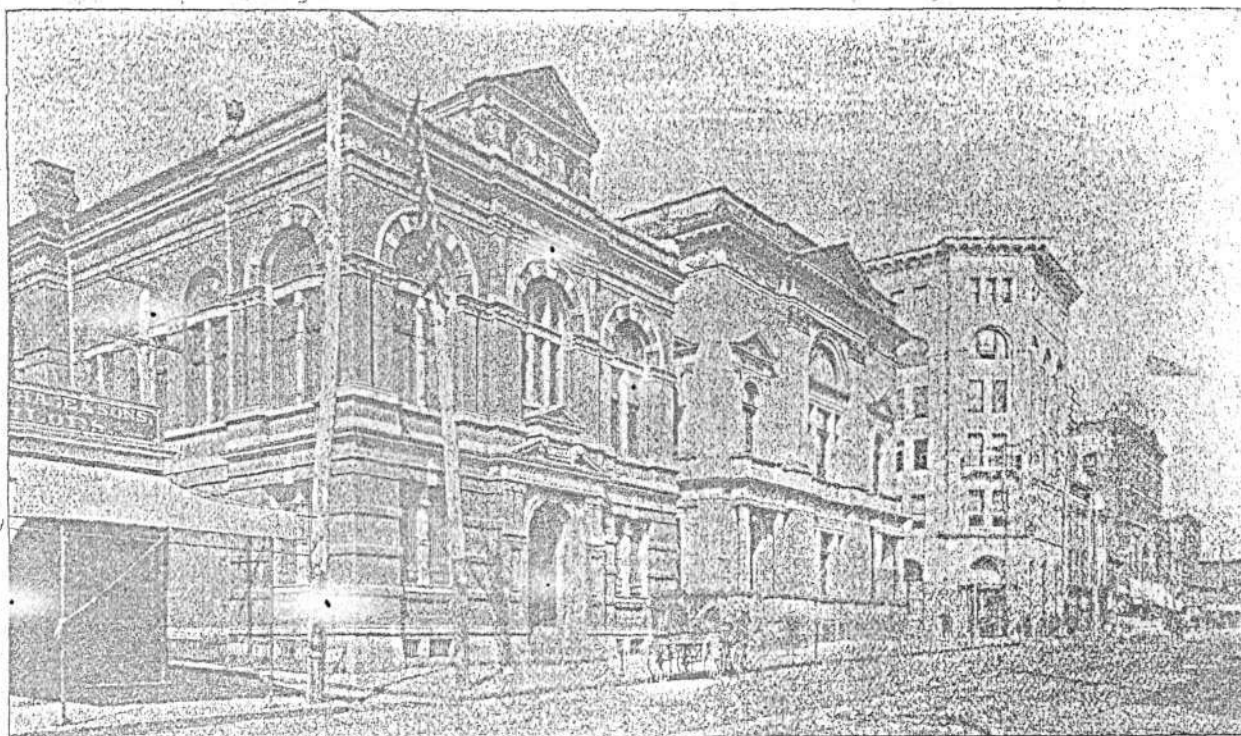
from: A Century of Baltimore  
Architecture



34

MB 1845

THE PEALE MUSEUM  
(THE MUNICIPAL MUSEUM)  
225 Holliday Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202



Western National  
Bank

B-2337

WESTERN NATIONAL BANK

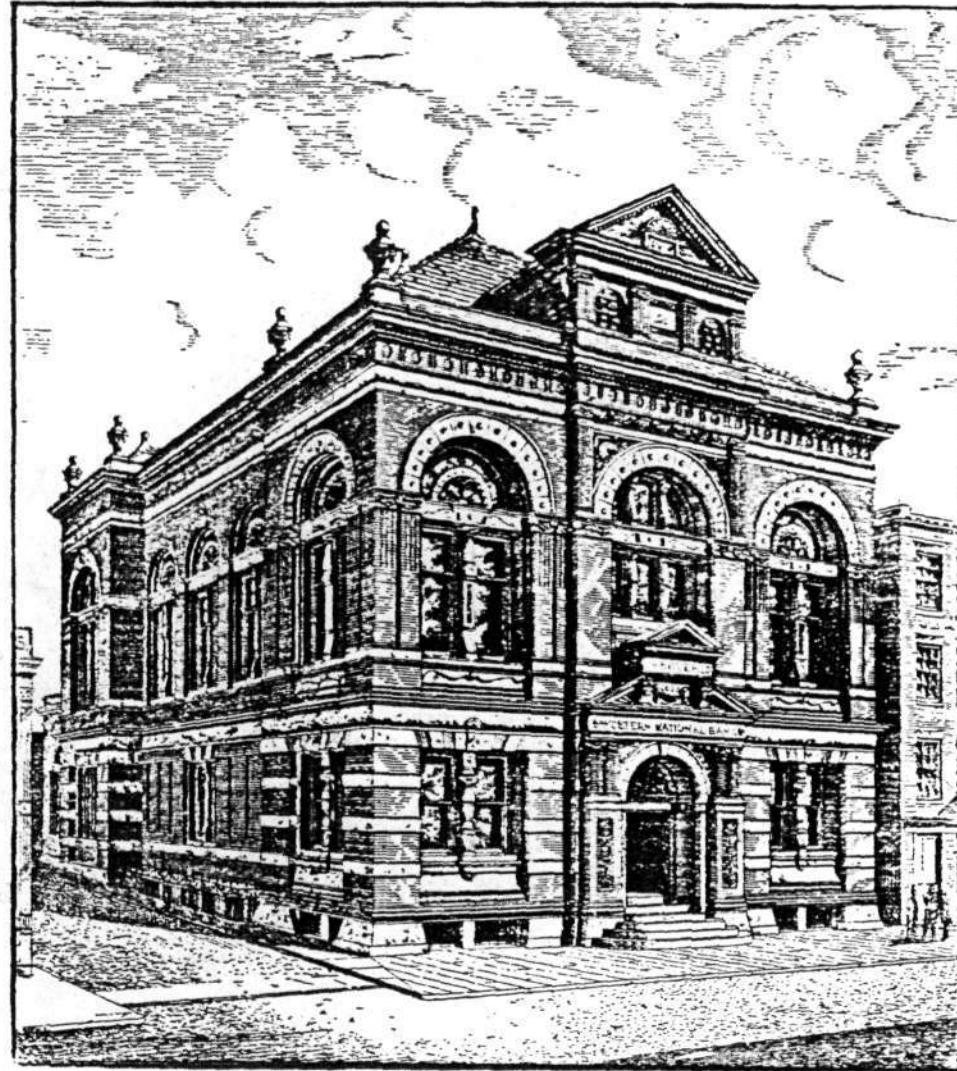
EUTAW SAVINGS BANK

DROVERS & MECHANICS NAT. BANK.



# WESTERN NATIONAL BANK OF BALTIMORE.

Among the strongest, best managed and most flourishing of the banking institutions must be reckoned the Western National Bank of Baltimore, a bank which has been in continuous successful operation as a State and National Bank for nearly two-thirds of a century. Incorporated under the laws of Maryland in 1835 as a State Bank, it continued thus until 1865, when it became nationalized under the laws of the United States. Its offices and counting-room occupy its own commodious building, erected a few years since, at No. 14 North Eutaw street, near Fayette. A general banking business is conducted, embracing deposit accounts of individuals, firms, banks and corporations, and the granting of loans and discounts, collections, the buying and selling of foreign exchange, issue of letters of credit and all other transactions in banking. The corporation holds membership in the Maryland Bankers' Association, and the American Bankers' Association, and has correspondents in all the principal cities of the United States. It possesses a paid-in capital of \$500,000 and a net surplus and profits of \$375,000, and is generally in splendid condition. Throughout its career it has had at its head officers and directors of the highest standing and qualification, and those of the present regime are of the same high character as their predecessors, and gentlemen of conspicuous prominence in the foremost circle of the community. They are: J. G. Harvey, President; William F. Burns, Vice-President, and William Marriott, Cashier. Directors: J. G. Harvey, William F. Burns, William S. Young, Charles F. Mayer, D. Fahnestock, Francis Burns, John Black, Gustav Gieske, Edward L. Bartlett, Howard Rieman, James Preston and W. Burns Trundle. Mr. J. G. Harvey has been President of the bank since June, 1880. He is also a director of the Eutaw Savings Bank, and of the Peabody Fire Insurance Company. Mr. William F. Burns has been for thirteen years Vice-President of this bank, and also a director for many years. He was formerly President of the Eutaw Savings Bank, retiring from that position



a few years ago on account of his health. Mr. William Marriott, formerly Assistant Cashier, has been connected with the bank for a number of years, and its Cashier since October 1, 1897, succeeding Mr. W. H. Norris, who, owing to continued ill health,

resigned, and whose death occurred February 7, 1898. Mr. Norris was the oldest Cashier in point of service in the city. Mr. Marriott is also the present Treasurer of the Maryland Bankers' Association.

from: Baltimore: The Gateway to the South, The Liverpool of America

**Maryland Historical Trust  
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

Survey No. B-2337

Magi No. 0423375612

DOE   yes Xno

**1. Name** (indicate preferred name)

historic Western National Bank

and/or common First National Bank

**2. Location**

street & number 14 Eutaw Street    not for publication

city, town Baltimore    vicinity of    congressional district

state Maryland county    city   

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<u>  </u> district	<u>  </u> public	<u>X</u> occupied	<u>  </u> agriculture <u>  </u> museum
<u>X</u> building(s)	<u>X</u> private	<u>  </u> unoccupied	<u>X</u> commercial <u>  </u> park
<u>  </u> structure	<u>  </u> both	<u>  </u> work in progress	<u>  </u> educational <u>  </u> private residence
<u>  </u> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<u>  </u> entertainment <u>  </u> religious
<u>  </u> object	<u>  </u> in process	<u>X</u> yes: restricted	<u>  </u> government <u>  </u> scientific
	<u>  </u> being considered	<u>  </u> yes: unrestricted	<u>  </u> industrial <u>  </u> transportation
	<u>  </u> not applicable	<u>  </u> no	<u>  </u> military <u>  </u> other:

**4. Owner of Property** (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name   

street & number    telephone no.:   

city, town    state and zip code   

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore City Courthouse    liber

street & number Calvert and Fayette Streets    folio

city, town Baltimore state Maryland

**6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys**

title CBD West; Maryland Historical Trust Historic Sites Survey;  
Baltimore Retail District

date 1976; 1976; 1980    federal    state    county    local

depository for survey records Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation;  
Market Center Development Corporation

city, town Baltimore state Maryland

## 7. Description

Survey No. B-2347

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved      date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

### Summary

Sited prominently on Eutaw Street, at the corner of Cowpen Alley, the First National Bank stands within the heart of Baltimore's financial and commercial district. It was originally constructed in 1890 to the design of architect Charles L. Carson as an exuberant Queen Anne style structure. In 1912, a new classical facade, designed by Haskell and Barnes, was placed over the original, completely altering the appearance of the building.

### Exterior

The facade of the present bank is a result of a 1912 remodeling of the original building. (See Figure 1.) The Baltimore architectural firm of Haskell and Barnes was commissioned to remodel the existing building to present a more modern and up-to-date institution. Their plans involved designing a completely new facade, and reworking of the existing interior space to accommodate modern banking needs.

The original 1890 design by Charles L. Carson was executed in a decorated and exuberant Queen Anne style. (See Figure 2.) The effect of the newly remodeled bank is much simpler; the massing, like the original building, is tripartite with a central entrance. The decoration and ornamentation is uncomplicated--featuring a centrally located, monumental, pedimented portico with four giant columns in the Ionic style. The frieze is unadorned except for the carved identification "Western National Bank" on its face. The pediment is decorated with egg and dart molding, and with marble acroteria at peak and ends. The building's marble facade is of coursed smooth-faced ashlar blocks.

### Interior

The interior of the Western National Bank displays the grand ideals of banking design. The entrance to the banking lobby is through large, revolving doors which lead into a handsome and imposing two-story space. (See Figures 3 and 4.) The main banking room was extended in the 1912 remodeling by 20 feet, giving the customers and working force a space of 75 by 50 feet. All floors are laid in marble tile and the walls to the division

of the first and second levels feature marble wainscotting. The interior is finished in Marilla marble from the Beaver Dam quarries at Cockeysville. It was apparently the first time this marble had been used for interior furnishings.<sup>1</sup> Bronze, ornamental torch lighting fixtures are placed around the walls. The fixtures have a semi-globe with a simple fret etched into the glass. (See Figure 5.) Bronze checking and depositing tables, designed by the architects during the 1912 remodeling, are to the right and left of the entrance. The marble tellers' cages form an inner rectangular space on the floor that curves at the ends. The marble shelf was probably installed after the 1912 work on the interior, and a linoleum shelf has recently been added onto the marble, perhaps for security reasons.

The impressive vault installed in 1897 is situated behind the tellers' cages and commands a central viewing position. It was designed by the Hollar Company (engineers from Philadelphia) and was manufactured at Bethlehem Steel in Pennsylvania. (See Figure 6.) The vault has been inserted into a white marble frame, and above, a new parapet encloses the air conditioning system. A working clock, and the Maryland and U.S. flags top this vault structure.

The second level is separated from the first by a projecting cornice that serves as a base, ornamented simply by a Greek fret. Tube lighting has been discretely installed under the projecting cornice. A regularly placed colonade of wooden pilasters placed between each window lends a sense of institutional and architectural dignity. They are designed in the Tuscan order with egg and dart moldings below the order. The pilasters at each end of the bank are paired, while single pilasters frame the side windows at the second level. It was the architects' ideal to use numerous openings including skylights and windows for the best illumination and ventilation. The cornice has a denticulated molding below an egg and dart motif.

The needs of the bank did not warrant many offices, but rather one large and impressive apartment; consequently the private offices are situated on the rear outer rim of the building. This rear addition of the bank was made in 1912, and includes the president's office and the office of the board of directors. Both rooms are feature dark wood paneling with ornamented plaster moldings. The marble mantel in the board of directors' room serves as the focal point. (See Figure 7.) It is restrained in ornament featuring two Tuscan columns on either side of the fireplace.

During the 1912 remodeling, the basement was outfitted to accommodate full kitchen and dining facilities.



FOOTNOTES

<sup>1</sup> Baltimore Morning Sun, March 25, 1913.

## 8. Significance

Survey No. B-2337

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1881; 1912 alteration Builder/Architect Charles Carson; Haskel and Barnes

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

### Summary

As one of the oldest banking institutions in Baltimore, the Western National Bank has played an important role in the development of Baltimore's financial and commercial history. Its merger with the First National Bank, an equally important financial institution in the city, solidified its historical and institutional significance.

The prominent location within the heart of the commercial and financial district, and the continual occupation of the banking offices at 14 Eutaw Street are important.

### Banking History

The structure at 14 Eutaw Street was originally constructed in 1881 as the Western National Bank. In 1957 the Western National Bank merged with a larger organization, the First National Bank, and was consequently renamed. As the merger was so late in the bank's history, this written history of the bank will concentrate on the Western National Bank, its development and role as a prominent financial institution in Baltimore.

Approaching its 150th anniversary as a banking institution, the history of the Western National Bank/First National Bank building in Baltimore is strong. The Western National Bank managed the financial affairs of Baltimoreans from the present site on Eutaw Street from 1835, when it was incorporated as a state bank, to 1957, when it merged with the First National. In 1865 the bank was nationalized under the laws of the United States. Blessed with the ideal of careful banking, it was able to stand secure during the financial crises and panics that hit the city throughout its development. A sense of "conservatism" was deeply embedded within the banks tradition. 1

During its early development, Western National played a strong role in our country's checkered history. In 1880 "...two wars had beset the people - the Mexican War, and the War Between the States - and in the latter Baltimore was virtually a No Man's Land, between the contestants. Generations of American pioneers had done their share of empire building, had struggled, dreamed, and fought; and throughout this whole turbulent period these pioneers of the Western Bank had carried on, quietly, faithfully and successfully, not insulated from the life around them, playing important roles in the continuing American drama; but so guarding the affairs of their bank that it had come to be to the people of Baltimore a symbol of integrity and service." <sup>2</sup>

In 1880 the president of the bank, Joshua G. Harvey, formalized and developed plans for a new banking house that would replace the old bank building that had stood for more than 40 years. He commissioned architect Charles L. Carson, a native of Baltimore who was responsible for the design of numerous buildings in the city, to design the new banking structure. (See Figure 8.) He is particularly noted for his Richardsonian designs, such as Goucher Hall. (See Figure 9.) With the construction of a new banking facility, the directors of the bank undertook new financial measures to promote confidence in their banking practice. Their efforts were extremely successful and the business grew to even larger proportions. (See Attachment A.)

When Charles E. Rieman became president of the bank in 1906, his chief concern was to utilize modern financial methods and equipment. <sup>2</sup> (See Figure 10.) He also recognized that the bank had outgrown its existing facility. Rieman wanted an architecturally dignified building indicative of the prosperity of American banking, and symbolic of financial stability, permanence and exuberance. A new banking house was planned to bring the Western National up to the most modern standards of the business while maintaining its position as an old and respectable banking house of Baltimore. The president of the bank commissioned the Baltimore architects Haskel and Barnes, who completed the newly remodeled bank in 1913. Their alterations included an entirely new facade. (See Figure 11.) Little is known of the architectural firm; they tended to build predominantly small-scale commercial structures. Several examples of their work are: 30 S. Calvert Street, 35 Grant Street (a small warehouse), and 411 and 417 E. Baltimore Street. The bank at 14 Eutaw Street today retains much of the 1913 design by Haskel and Barnes.

In 1956, when the Western National merged with the First National Bank of Baltimore, it was joining the largest financial artery in

Baltimore--a bank in the process of celebrating its 150th anniversary. (See Figure 12.) First called the Mechanics Bank of Baltimore--and established ten years after the town of Baltimore was incorporated--First National had in its early history provided financial services to the rapidly growing port and industrial center, and later grown innately with the city.

#### Recommendation

There is a possibility that the First National Bank would qualify for listing on the National Register. However, its significance is very difficult to assess, and needs additional study and evaluation.

For purposes of clarification, First National is compared here to the Maryland National Bank (its neighbor immediately to the north). Both banks hold some degree of significance in two main areas: 1) their architectural merit and adherence to idealized banking design, and 2) their role in Baltimore's banking history.

However, when compared to Maryland National (which holds a good potential for listing on the National Register), First National's potential for listing is not as strong--at least architecturally. (See the section on Maryland National later in this report for a view of its comparative significance.) Although both structures were originally designed by the same man, noted architect Charles L. Carson, First National's original facade is now completely obscured by a new facade designed by Haskell and Barnes. That firm is not currently well known, and further research into the firm would be beneficial to determine the extent of their work in Baltimore and the role they played in its architectural heritage. However, architecturally, First National is an important element of a fine streetscape--composed of the two banks and the Hippodrome. It carries some significance as a competent example of ideal early 20th century banking design; it has a dignified facade, a commanding lobby space, and nicely restrained Classical ornamentation. In addition, historically, First National is a long-standing member of the city's financial and commercial community. A more thorough investigation of its place in Baltimore's banking history is important to determining its ultimate National Register potential.

It is difficult at this time to predict what First National's chances for listing would be. However, its banking history may be deemed significant enough to stand alone, and it is worth pursuing a nomination. (The interior spaces alone were assigned to this project, and they would contribute to a nomination on the entire structure if one were proposed.)

Certainly, first the issue of listing on the National Register should be clarified. Then, no matter what the decision on nominating the structure may be, ideally the facade of the Western National Bank would be preserved intact.



The question of preservation of the interior of the building is a bit more difficult. The interior is not exceptionally strong in an architectural sense and is secondary to the importance of the structure in the streetscape. If further research could prove that the interior design is not, in fact, integral to the history and architectural significance of the structure, then it may be possible to make substantial interior alterations. If such were the case, significant interior elements should be salvaged. However, any consideration of the interior should be made after the issue of nomination of the structure to the National Register is settled.

#### FOOTNOTES

<sup>1</sup> A Brief History of a Bank, p. 38.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., p. 32.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. B-2337

(see attached)

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle scale \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A 

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Zone Easting Northing

B 

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Zone Easting Northing

C 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

E 

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F 

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G 

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H 

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title \_\_\_\_\_

organization Traceries date February 1986

street & number 1606 20th Street, N.W., Suite 201 telephone 202/462-0333

city or town Washington state D.C. 20009

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438

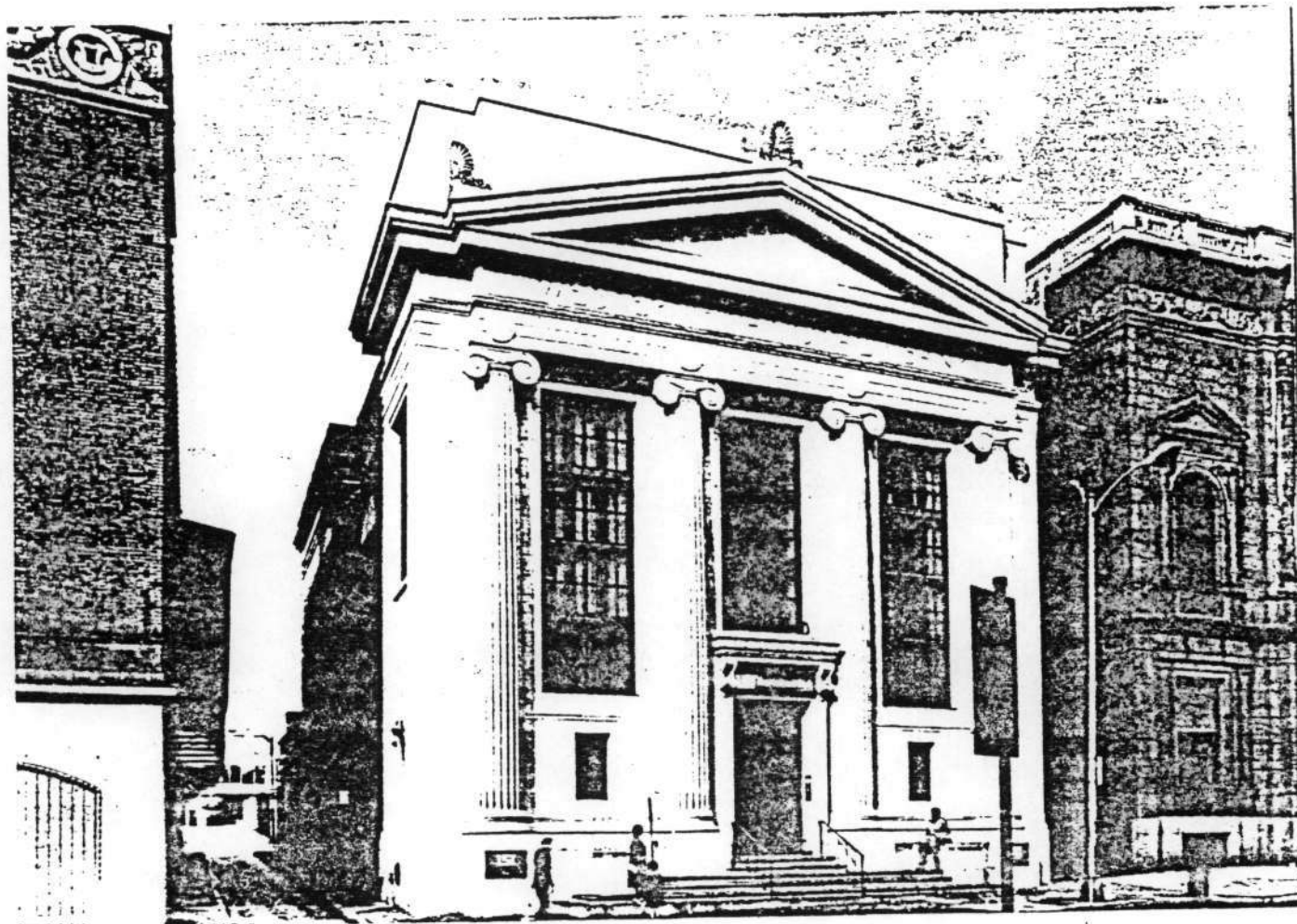
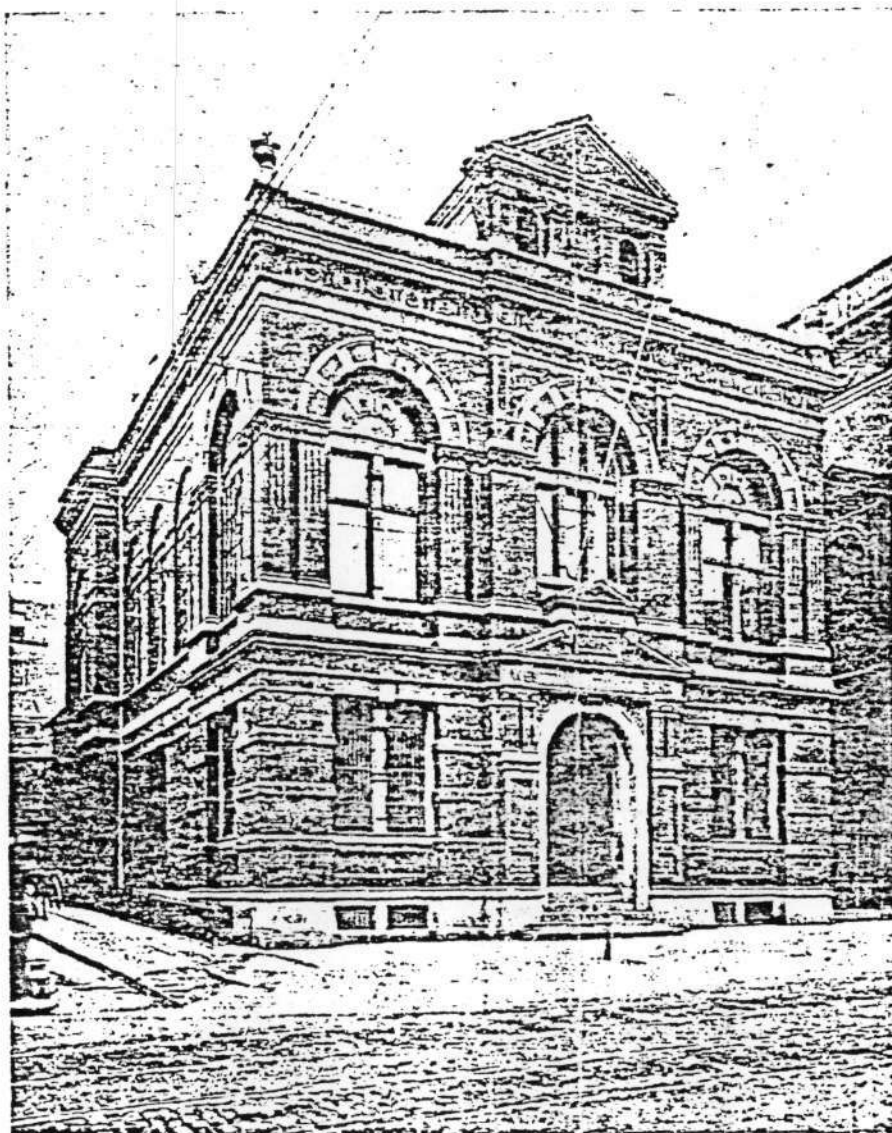


PHOTO: William Lebovich

FIGURE 1



From: A Brief History of a Bank

THE SECOND BANK BUILDING, BUILT IN 1880-81, WITHOUT  
THE RESIDENCE ABOVE THE BANKING ROOMS

FIGURE 2



BIBLIOGRAPHY

Architectural Record. "The Bank Buildings of Baltimore." August 1907.

Baltimore, Gateway to the South, Liverpool of America. Baltimore: 1898.

Baltimore Morning Sun, "Bank to Have Reception," March 25, 1913.

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## ARCHIVAL RESOURCES

American Institute of Architects. Avery Index and other biographical directories.

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Enoch Pratt Free Library. Vertical, map and photo files; books.

First National Bank, Office of Public Affairs.

Library of Congress, Maps and Geography Division.

Maryland Historical Society. Prints and Photographs Division.

Peale Museum, Prints and Photographs Collection.

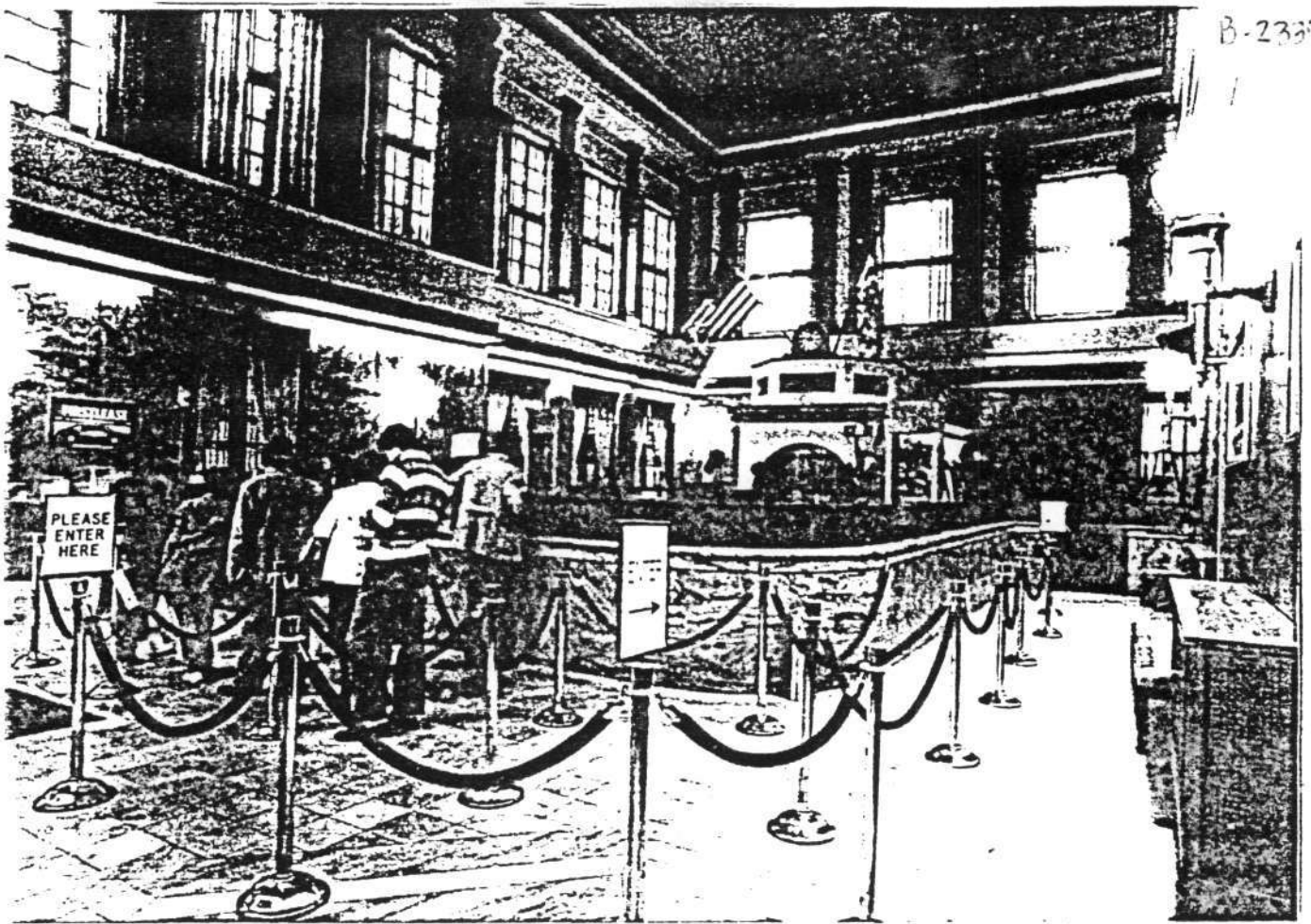


FIGURE 3

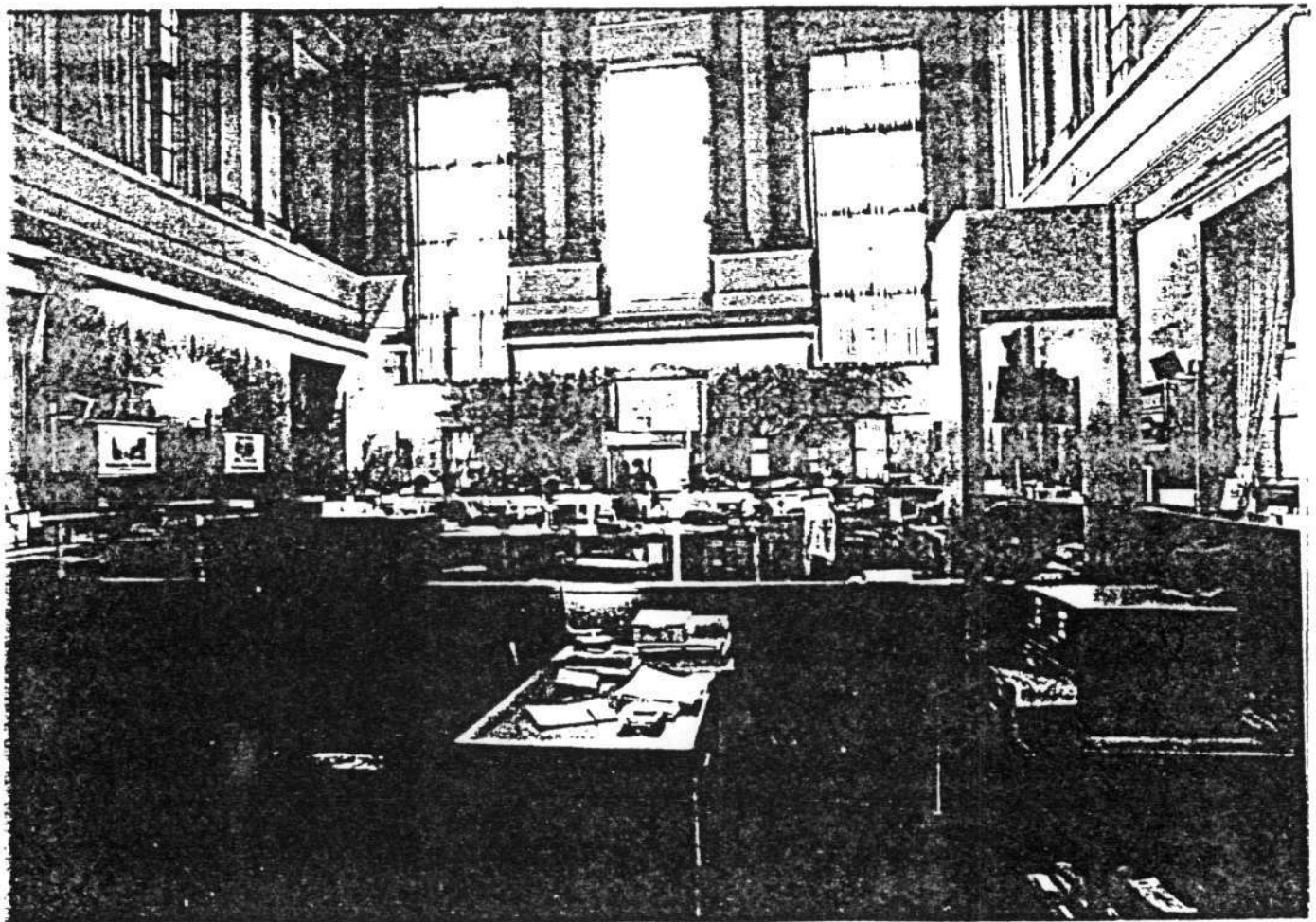


FIGURE 4



PHOTO: William Lebovich

FIGURE 5



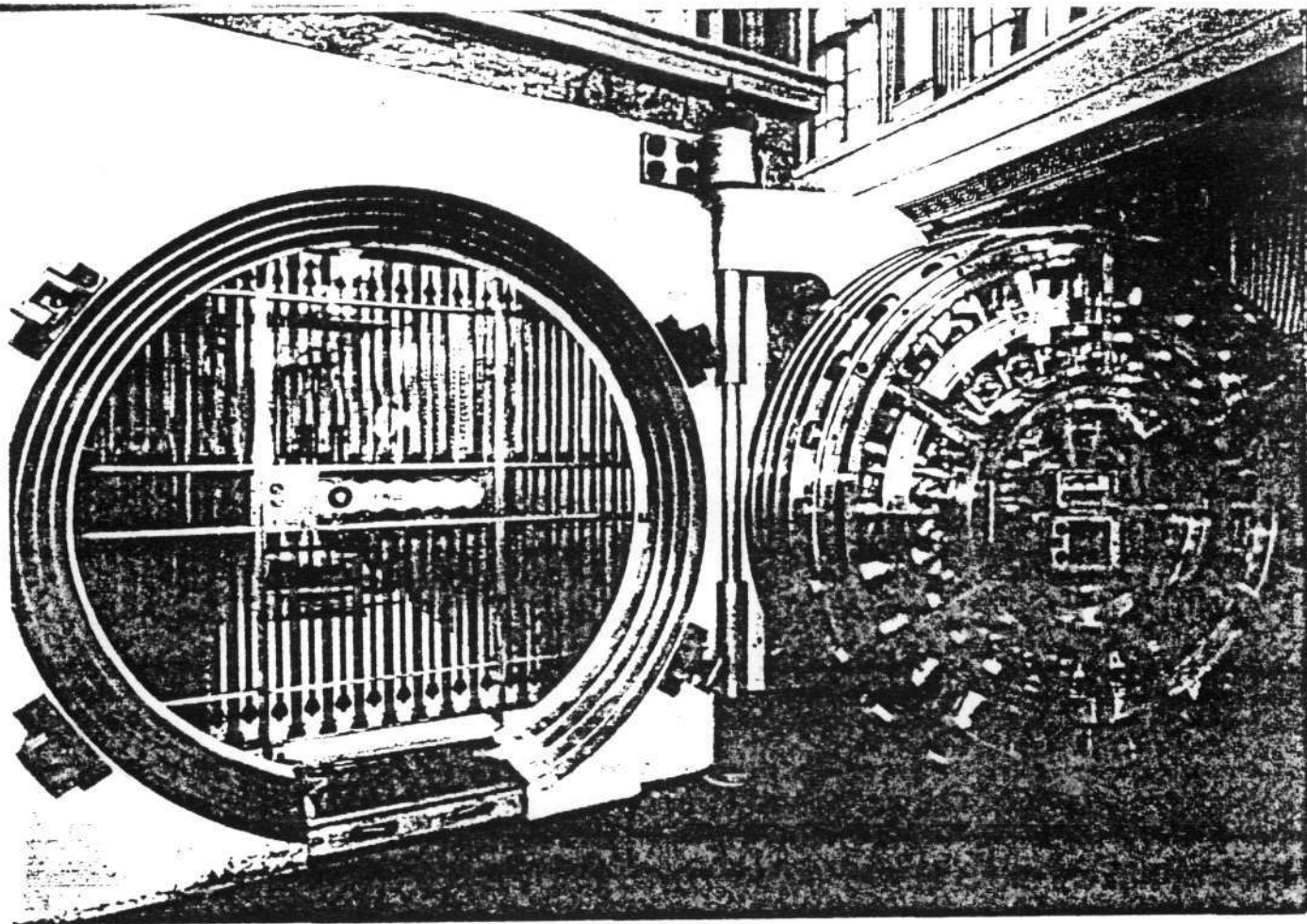


PHOTO: William Lebovich

FIGURE 6

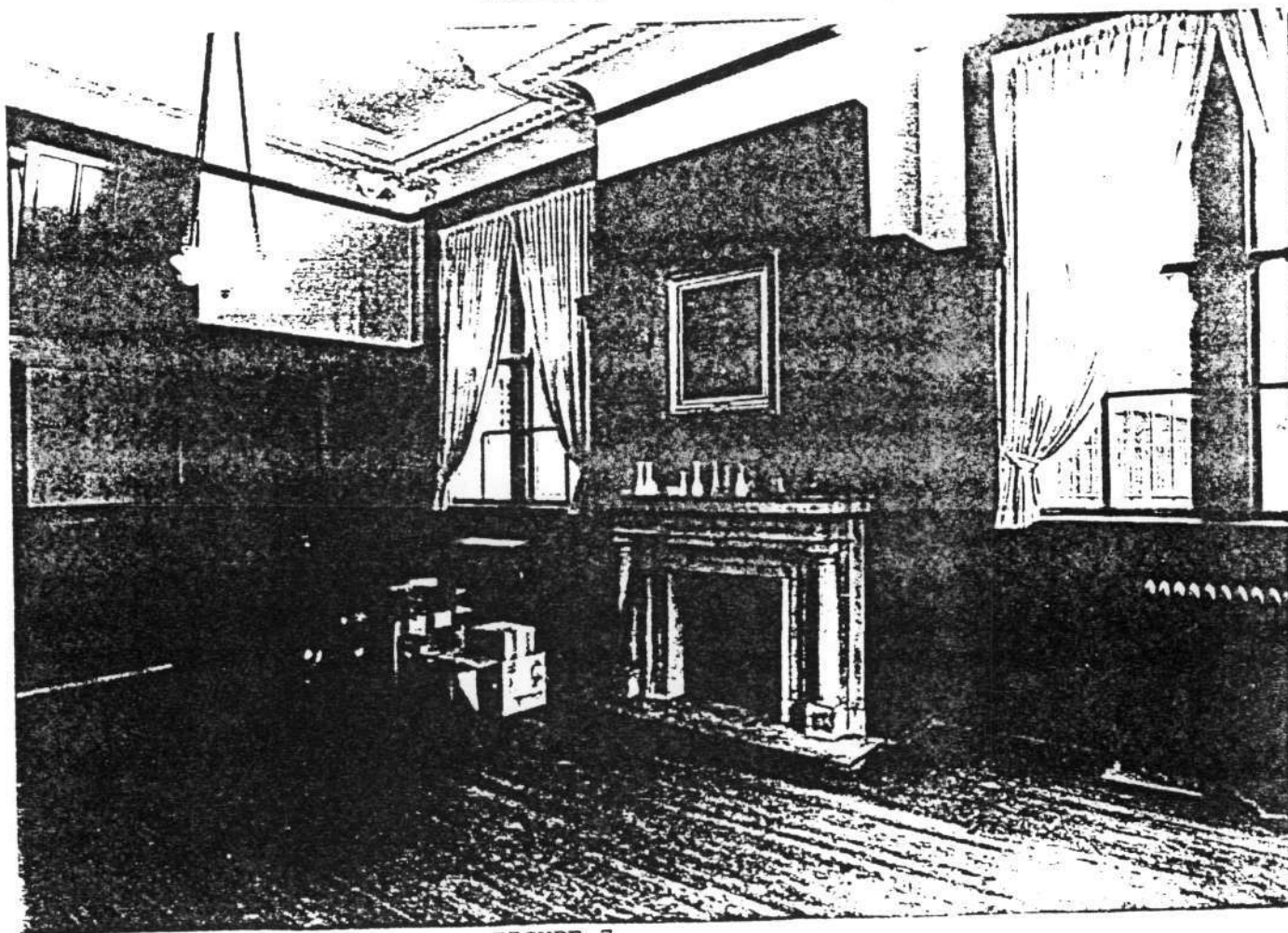
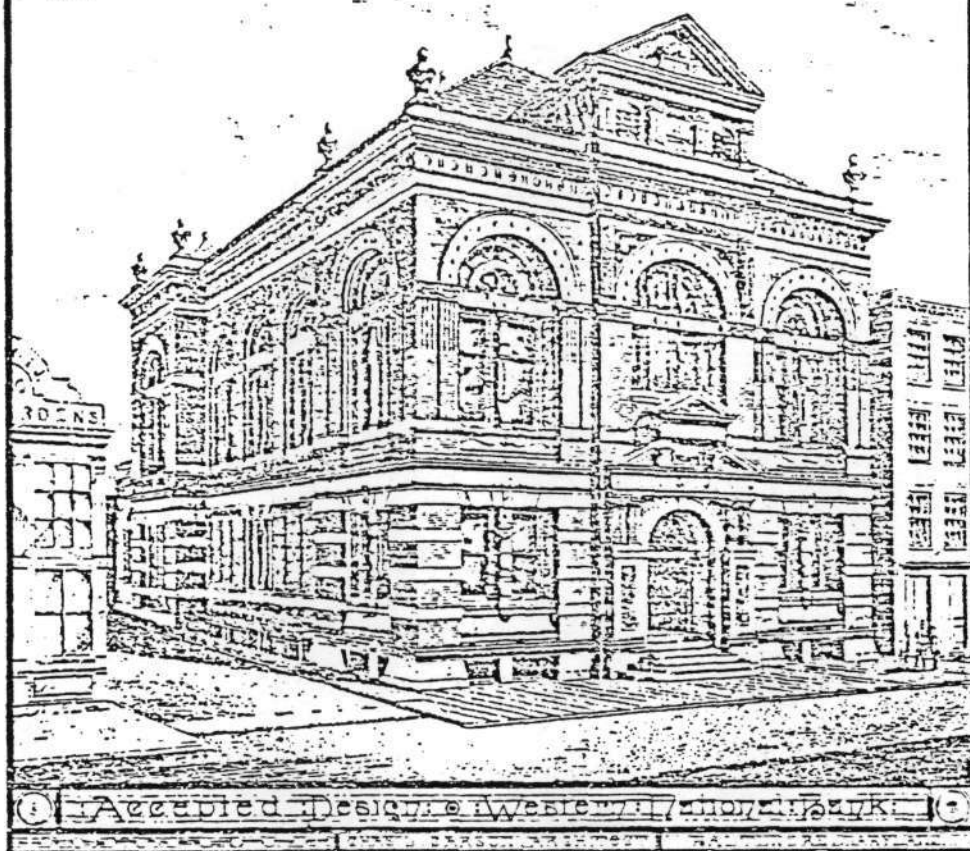


PHOTO: William Lebovich

FIGURE 7





From: American Architect, no. 298, 1881  
 Reprinted in Century of Baltimore Architecture

FIGURE 8

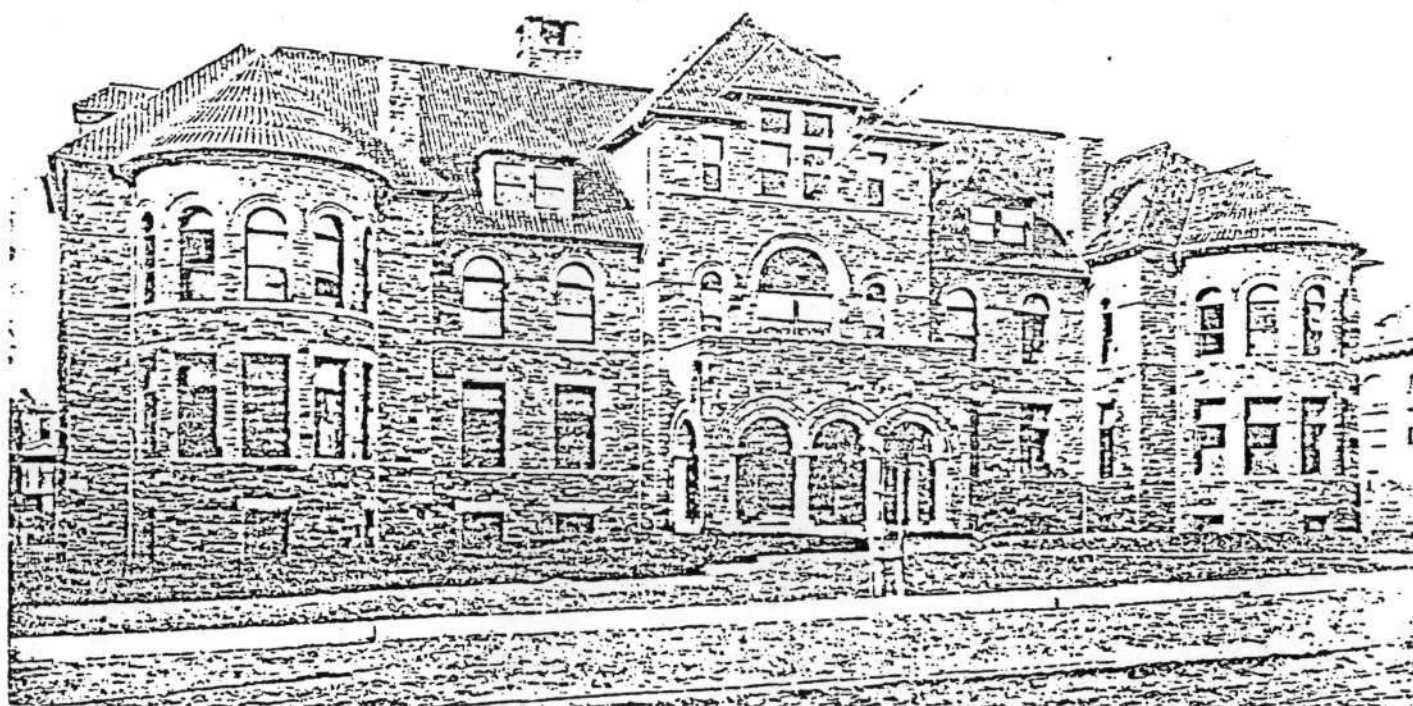


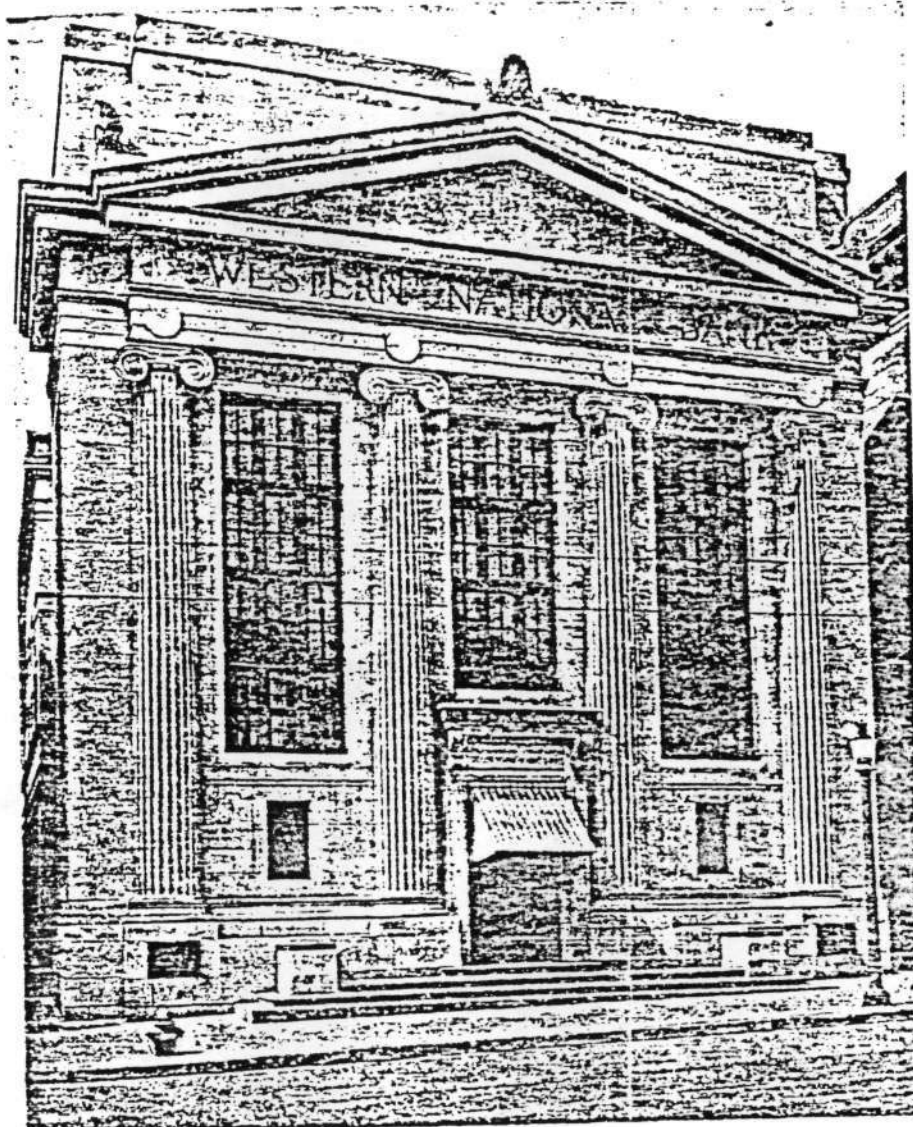
FIGURE 9



From: A Brief History of a Bank

CHARLES E. RIEMAN

FIGURE 10



From: A Brief History of a Bank

THE PRESENT HOME OF THE BANK  
*As remodeled 1912*

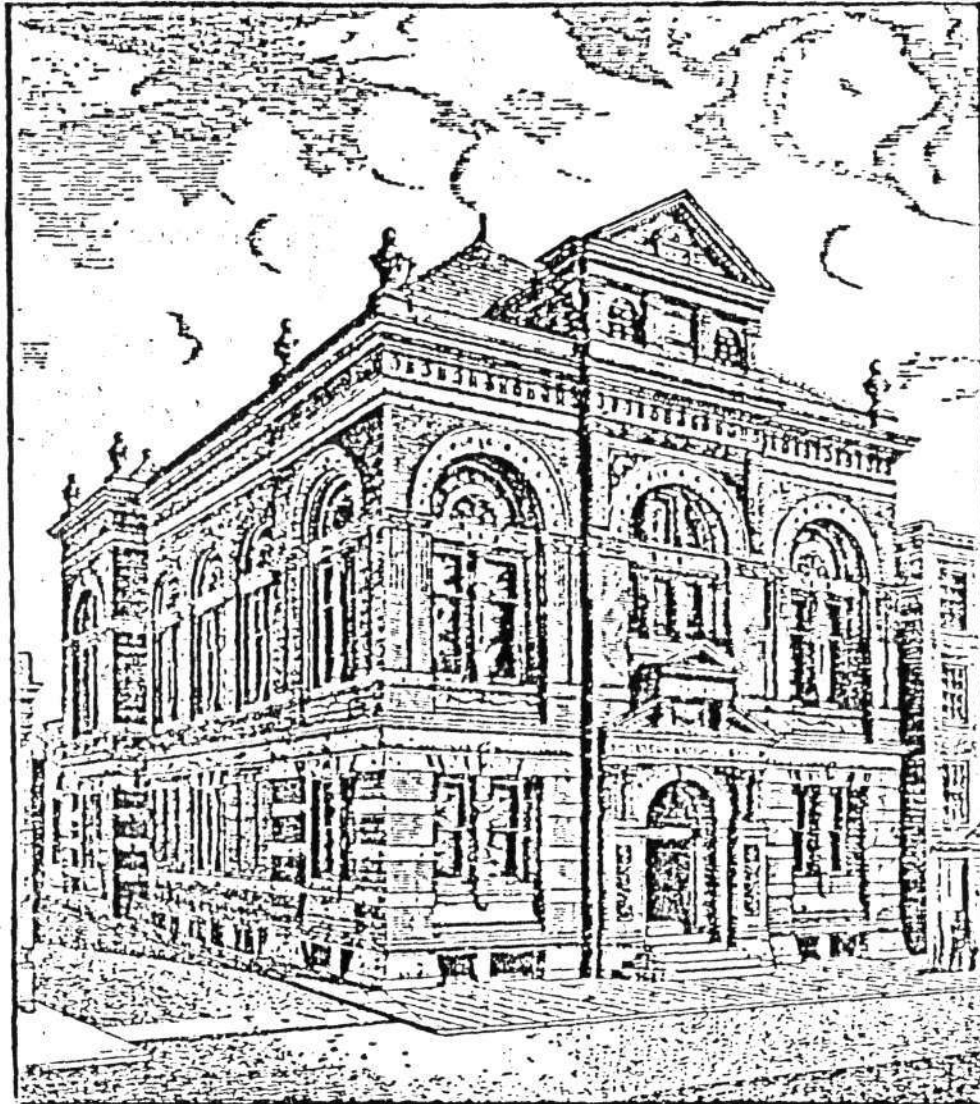
FIGURE 11





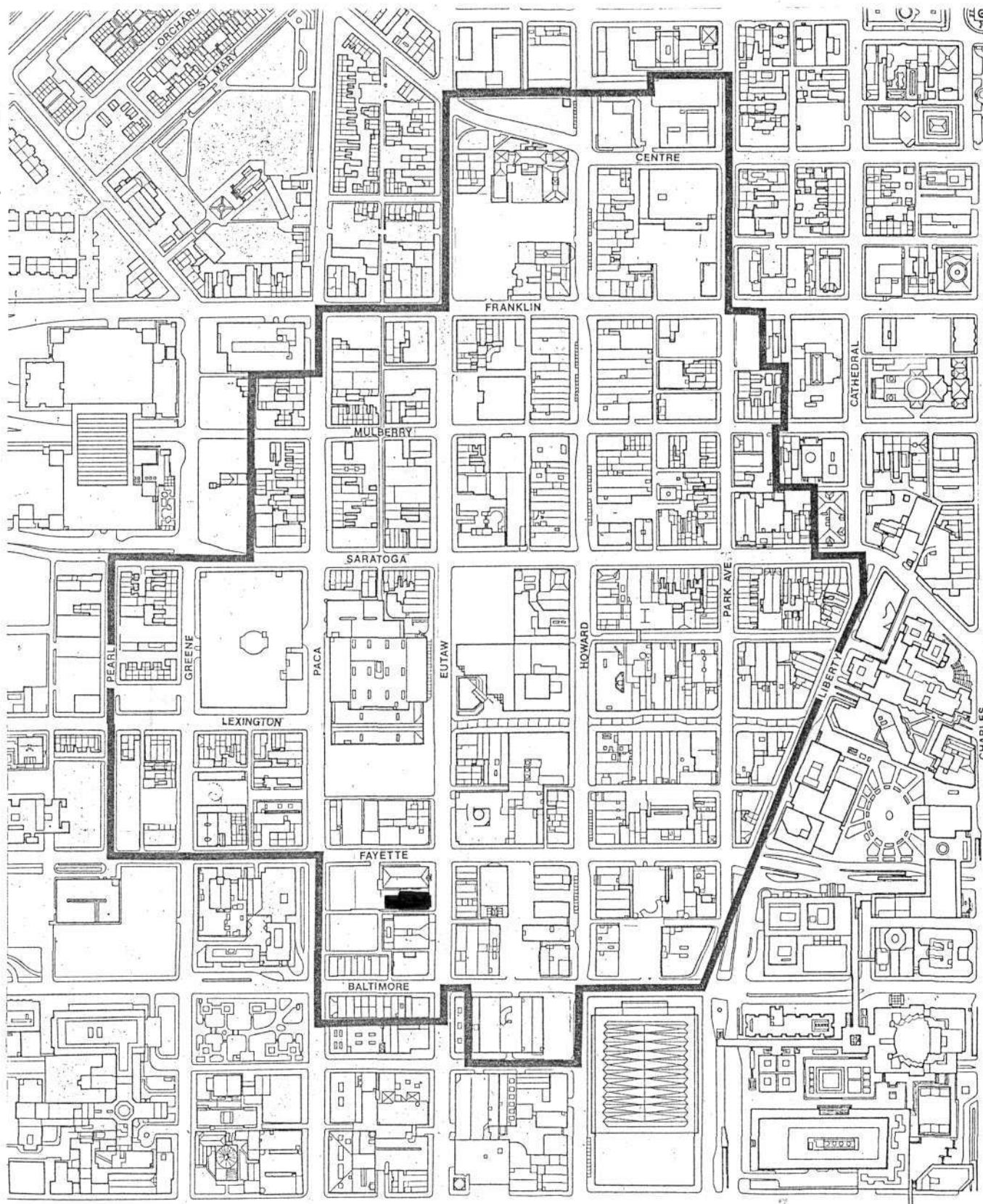
### WESTERN NATIONAL BANK OF BALTIMORE.

Among the strongest, best managed and most flourishing of the banking institutions must be reckoned the Western National Bank of Baltimore, a bank which has been in continuous successful operation as a State and National Bank for nearly two-thirds of a century. Incorporated under the laws of Maryland in 1835 as a State Bank, it continued thus until 1865, when it became nationalized under the laws of the United States. Its offices and counting-room occupy its own commodious building, erected a few years since, at No. 14 North Eutaw street, near Fayette. A general banking business is conducted, embracing deposit accounts of individuals, firms, banks and corporations, and the granting of loans and discounts, collections, the buying and selling of foreign exchange, issue of letters of credit and all other transactions in banking. The corporation holds membership in the Maryland Bankers' Association, and the American Bankers' Association, and has correspondents in all the principal cities of the United States. It possesses a paid-in capital of \$500,000 and a net surplus and profits of \$375,000, and is generally in splendid condition. Throughout its career it has had at its head officers and directors of the highest standing and qualification, and those of the present regime are of the same high character as their predecessors, and gentlemen of conspicuous prominence in the foremost circle of the community. They are: J. G. Harvey, President; William F. Burns, Vice-President, and William Marriott, Cashier. Directors: J. G. Harvey, William F. Burns, William S. Young, Charles F. Mayer, D. Fahnestock, Francis Burns, John Black, Gustav Gieske, Edward L. Bartlett, Howard Rieman, James Preston and W. Burns Trundle. Mr. J. G. Harvey has been President of the bank since June, 1880. He is also a director of the Eutaw Savings Bank, and of the Peabody Fire Insurance Company. Mr. William F. Burns has been for thirteen years Vice-President of this bank, and also a director for many years. He was formerly President of the Eutaw Savings Bank, retiring from that position



a few years ago on account of his health. Mr. William Marriott, formerly Assistant Cashier, has been connected with the bank for a number of years, and its Cashier since October 1, 1897, succeeding Mr. W. H. Norris, who, owing to continued ill health,

resigned, and whose death occurred February 7, 1898. Mr. Norris was the oldest Cashier in point of service in the city. Mr. Marriott is also the present Treasurer of the Maryland Bankers' Association.



Baltimore Metrocenter Survey  
 Market Center  
 Western National Bank  
 14 North Eutaw Street  
 B-2337





Western National Bank B-2337  
14 North Eutaw Street  
Market Center - Metrocenter Survey  
Baltimore (City), Maryland  
Photo: Janet Davis  
March 1986  
Neg. loc.: Maryland Historical Trust  
East elevation



Bh 631 27  
B-2337

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

MAG 1 #0423375612

NOMINATION FORM  
for the  
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

<b>1. NAME</b>				
COMMON: First National Bank of Maryland				
AND/OR HISTORIC: Western National Bank				
<b>2. LOCATION</b>				
STREET AND NUMBER: 14 N. Eautaw Street				
CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore				
STATE: Maryland		COUNTY:		
<b>3. CLASSIFICATION</b>				
<b>CATEGORY</b> (Check One)		<b>OWNERSHIP</b>		<b>STATUS</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
		Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>PRESENT USE</b> (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____ _____
<b>4. OWNER OF PROPERTY</b>				
OWNER'S NAME:				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:		STATE:		
<b>5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION</b>				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Records Office Room 601				
STREET AND NUMBER: Baltimore City Courthouse				
CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore		STATE: Maryland		21202
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):				
<b>6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS</b>				
TITLE OF SURVEY: City of Baltimore Neighborhood Survey				
DATE OF SURVEY: 1976 <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: COMMISSION FOR HISTORICAL & ARCHITECTURAL PRESERVATION				
STREET AND NUMBER: Room 900				
CITY OR TOWN: 26 South Calvert St. Baltimore, Md. 21202		STATE:		

7. DESCRIPTION			
CONDITION	<div style="text-align: right;">(Check One)</div> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed		
	<div style="text-align: center;">(Check One)</div> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered <input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<div style="text-align: center;">(Check One)</div> <input type="checkbox"/> Moved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE			
<p>An engraving of this building as completed in 1881 by Architect Charles L. Carson appears in <u>Century of Baltimore Architecture</u>, Peale Museum, 1957.</p> <p>This marble faced banking building executed in the temple style is closely patterned after its Queen Anne predecessor. The central portion is a mock portico which projects slightly beyond the front edges. A flattened pediment is supported on four fluted Ionic engaged columns. These rest on stone pedestals which in turn rest on the marble stairs which run the width of the building. Two flanking pedestals for sculpture stand free of figures.</p> <p>The central entrance is framed in simple moldings with a flat hood supported on rolled consoles. A bronze and glass revolving door with a tripartite transom above can be protected by a pair of sliding, panelled bronze doors. Flanking the entranceway in the side bays are two double hung windows with three-over-three lights protected by ornamental iron grills.</p> <p>Above this lower level of openings are large rectangular window openings. The central one is of nine parts of four lights each; the sides are of twelve parts of four lights each. All lights are fixed.</p> <p>The frieze is unadorned except for the carved identification "Western National Bank" on its face. The pediment is adorned with rows of egg and dart molding, and with marble anthemion at peak and ends. A parapet behind, like the rest of the building, is built of marble ashlar.</p>			

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

## 8. SIGNIFICANCE

## PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Pre-Columbian      ☐ 16th Century      ☒ 18th Century      ☐ 20th Century  
☐ 15th Century      ☐ 17th Century      ☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1881-1912

## AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |   |  |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education    | <input type="checkbox"/> Political      | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering  | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi-  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry     | losophy                                 | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention    | <input type="checkbox"/> Science        | _____                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape    | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture      | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human-  | _____                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce     | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature   | itarian                                 | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Military     | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater        | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            | <input type="checkbox"/> Music        | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____                                    |

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Originally built as the home of Western National Bank in 1881 in an elaborate Queen Anne mode, the building was a new facade in 1912 in the fashionable temple style. The elements of the front elevation are essentially the same, now masked behind the classical Ionic in an appealing manner. The vault installed in 1897 is still in use.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

## 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

## 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

## 11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:

Planning Assistants

ORGANIZATION

COMMISSION FOR HISTORICAL &  
ARCHITECTURAL PRESERVATION

DATE

1976

STREET AND NUMBER

Room 900

CITY OR TOWN:

26 South Calvert St.  
Baltimore, Md. 21202

STATE

12.

State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

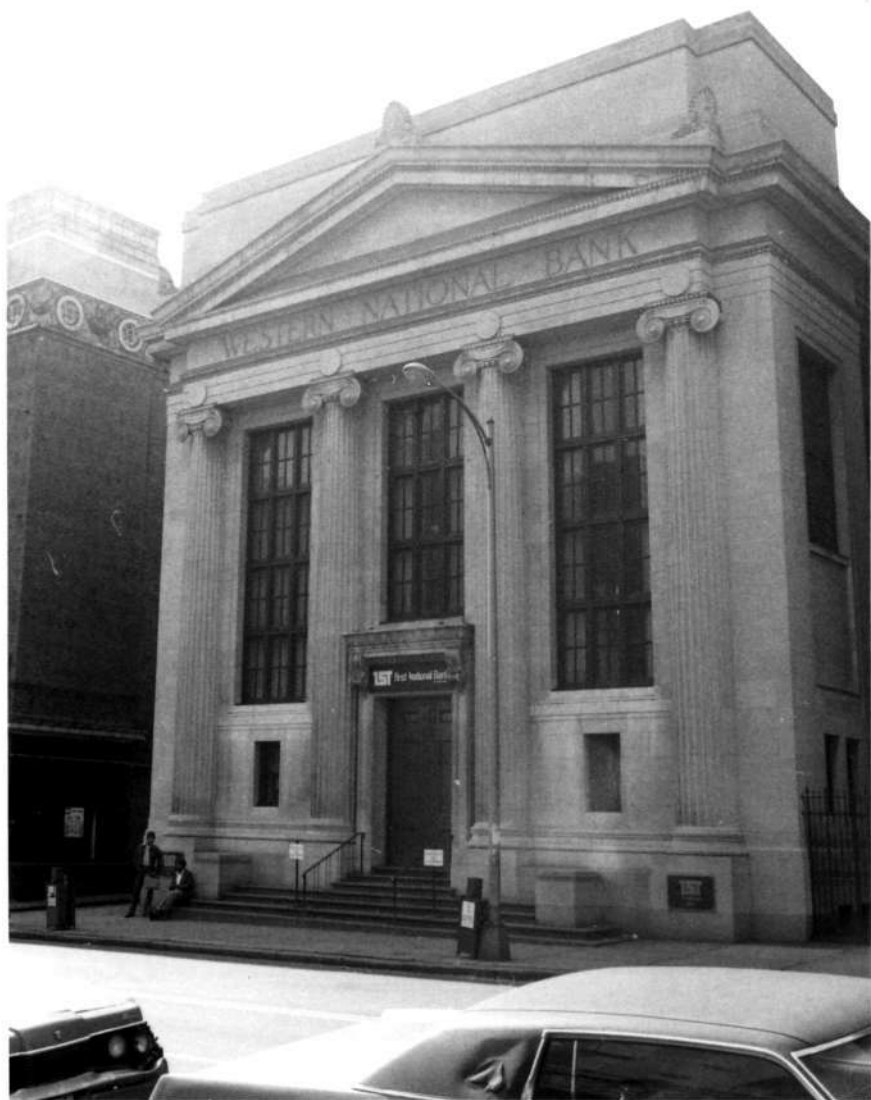
Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature

SEE INSTRUCTIONS





14 N. E. Entaw St.

B-2337

Neg #

2/76

B. Pencek

Black

631